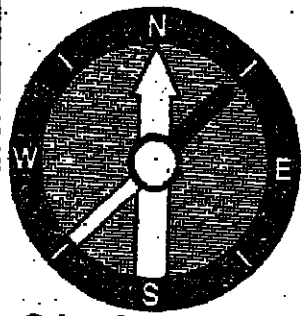


THE TIMES Tomorrow



Going places
Orienting the popular sport which combines imagination and physical skills

Pumpkins to palaces
The regency charm of Brighton

Forgotten slur
Why *Der Spiegel* dropped its libel suit against Sir James Goldsmith

Le football
An interview with the first Frenchman in the English league

Portfolio

There was no winner in The Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Today's prize is therefore increased to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 20. How to play, information service, back page.

Athletics at Olympics used drugs

Competitors in the Modern Pentathlon in this year's Olympic Games used drugs to aid their performances, but escaped disqualification because of a loophole in the regulations. Page 25

Nobel poet ill

Jaroslav Seifert, the Czechoslovak poet, was told of his Nobel literature prize, in hospital, and is unlikely to be able to go to Stockholm to receive it. Page 5

Widow accused

The widow of Mr. Michael Robertson, an IBM executive, was accused at Havant Hampshire, of soliciting a man to murder her husband. Page 2

More SS20s

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, told Nato defence ministers that the Soviet Union had increased its deployment of SS20 nuclear missiles targeted on Western Europe.

Report of meeting: Military cash shortage, page 8

Homecosts slow

The rate of house price increases more than halved between the second and third quarters of the year. Page 3

Teachers unite

Fifteen teachers' unions have agreed to shelve differences on pay policy and present a united front to try to win a substantial pay rise. Page 2

Pound slips

The dollar, after a strong day, closed lower at DM3.092 in London after heavy selling in New York. The pound closed 15 points down at \$1.285. Page 21

Reagan lead cut

The television debate with Mr Walter Mondale has reduced President Reagan's poll lead slightly. Page 5

Parking claim

Illegal parking on yellow lines fell by up to 40 per cent in central London after wheel clamps were introduced last May. Page 3

Leaders page 13
Letters: On the Archbishop, from Professor G. T. Stewart, and others; individual rights, from Mr C. McCall
Leading articles: Missile balance; Conservative Party Conference; Anglo-Irish security features, pages 10-12
Bernard Levin analyses our political malaise. Philip Howard's Booker blues. Spectrum: Surrey with a flame on top. Fashion extra: The Italian collection (Obituary, page 14)
Mrs Norah Smallwood, Guy Wolstenholme
Hongkong, pages 16-19
A Special Report on the state of the colony in the wake of the Sino-British agreement on its future. Classified pages 28-30

Tory differences on economic policy revealed

From Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent, Brighton

The wet-dry divisions in the Conservative Party were highlighted yesterday in speeches from Mr Peter Walker and Mr Norman Tebbit about the importance of free enterprise and the market economy.

Mr Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, delivered a total denunciation of all nationalization and pledged himself to market forces and the customer in a conference debate which established his position as a hero of the party's rank and file activists.

He told the Brighton conference: "The market system, allied with free enterprise, gives a better allocation of capital and human resources than any other yet devised."

The Government's programme for privatization, Mr Tebbit said, was driven partly by the belief that business existed to serve the customer. He also spoke of "the need to create wealth in order to lift compassion from hollow rhetoric to practical help."

Mr Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said at a fringe meeting organized by a centrist Tory group: "The market economy idolized by the people's consumers and as long as the market mechanism is working it does give consumers a wide freedom of choice. But people are more than just consumers. They are workers, managers, householders and students."

"Consumer freedom for them is one aspect of a free society, an important aspect". But he added: "Progressive Tories cannot rest easy if Government restricts their activities to just oiling the wheels of the market economy."

The heat of the ovation given to Mr Tebbit, and the boos and hisses which greeted two conference reports, Geoffrey Smith, Bernard Levin, David Watt, Diary 12, Leading article 13, Frank Johnson 32

ence speakers who questioned "unbridled capitalism" and spoke of the need for "the mixed economy", graphically showed that Mr Walker was fighting a rearguard action.

Mr Tebbit told the conference that he was pleased there had been no "bashing" of nationalized industry workers and management in the debate. "They are not idlers and they are not fools, but they are condemned to operate in a system that simply does not work."

The long list of firms and industries already privatized was by no means the end of the matter. "Some candidates are not yet ready", he said. "In some cases we have to take note

Halt ugly rhetoric urges Walker

From Philip Webster, Political Reporter, Brighton

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday urged the Conservative Party to indulge less in the ugly rhetoric of economic theory and to move towards the adoption of policies aimed at the creation of full employment.

In a speech which confirmed his position as the principal advocate in the Cabinet of changes in the way the country is run, Mr Walker told the Tory Reform Group in Brighton that the Government should proclaim and not deny its investment in industry and the social services.

And in remarks which clearly challenged the emphasis placed by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on service industries as the source of future jobs, Mr Walker said: "I reject the views of those who say that we should have as our purpose to become the great service industry economy. We will not achieve that if there is nothing to service."

He added: "We need to find ways of achieving economic growth. We have always sought as our objective the high-wage, high-productivity economy. We must recognize we will only be able to achieve that with a balance of manufacturing and service industries."

Mr Walker, who was given a standing ovation by the Conservative conference earlier this week, urged the party to pursue what he termed the creed of "creative conservatism", the ideal that everyone had the right to share in excellence. He said that Britain should become the country where the fear of unemployment was fast diminishing. "We will want this decade to have been seen as one where the Conservatives succeeded in their traditional purpose of being the party of national unity, whose concern is

Expansion promised for youth training

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, was given a standing ovation by the Conservative conference yesterday when he promised to extend and to build on both the youth training and enterprise allowance schemes, and to look for new ways of stimulating youth employment.

The material for his speech was thin, but he succeeded where Mr Nigel Lawson had failed the day before, in persuading the conference that the Government was showing practical concern for the unemployed.

He was answering a debate in which several speakers criticized the Government, usually obligingly, for inaction.

Mr King announced that he had secured Treasury consent for the enterprise allowance scheme, now costing some £66m a year, to be continued next year. The scheme pays £40 a week for a year to an unemployed adult who starts his own business.

With two thirds of the original applicants still in business a year after their subsidy stopped, the Department of Employment and the Treasury both regard the scheme as a success, and Mr King would like to see a raising of the present limit on new entrants of 1,000 a week.

Mr King said critics of the youth training scheme, started last year, had been proved wrong. The number in training, at more than 160,000, is nearly twice as high as a year ago.

Mr King told the conference that the Government was looking again to see if "the range of protections, restrictions, procedures and customs" were still justified at today's levels of unemployment.

Mr King is chairing a Cabinet committee which is to report by next Spring on ways of removing obstacles, particularly to youth employment. The levels of apprenticeship wages councils and of employment protection laws will all be examined.

Gromyko to visit UK

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, is to visit Britain next spring, the Foreign Office said last night. It will be his first visit here in nine years. (Henry Stanhope writes).

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who disclosed the forthcoming visit during his speech at the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton, invited Mr Gromyko while he was in Moscow in July.

The two men last met at the opening of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September. No date has yet been fixed for Mr Gromyko's London visit.

Professions boom in high-tech Britain

By Nicholas Timmins, Health Services Correspondent

Huge changes in Britain's workforce over a decade, with a significant rise in unemployment, particularly among the young, big movements of jobs from manufacturing to service industries and a growth in the professional jobs of a high technology society are charted in the latest issue of Population Trends.

Using 1981 census data, the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys says the half per cent increase in population since the 1971 census was the lowest increase ever recorded.

But substantial changes took place in economic activity. Jobs in manufacturing fell by 24 per cent, with agriculture, forestry and fishing down 19 per cent.

the article says, but the number of women working rose, chiefly married women working part-time, often in traditional "women's work": cleaners, cooks, waitresses, clerks and typists.

Banking, finance, computers, health services and other jobs where women were more likely to find work expanded, while heavy industries contracted.

The numbers employed in professional jobs such as doctors, solicitors, teachers, nurses, engineers, designers and technicians rose "reflecting the growth of higher education and the demand for services and technical specialists in a society moving into an era of high technology".

The results was a growth in the higher social classes. The proportion of men and women in social classes one and two



Activists' hero: Mr Norman Tebbit speaking at Brighton yesterday (Photograph: John Manning)

Coal imports tactic to prevent power cuts

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Coal imports are now running at levels high enough to meet all UK industrial and household demands, leaving National Coal Board output from working mines and pithead and power station stocks to be used by the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The government is still hoping for an early settlement to the miners' dispute, but is now considering the alternatives open to it to prevent electricity power cuts. Among the options is the diversion of all coal board output to the power stations, leaving other markets to be met by the coal merchants from their own stocks and from imports.

Despite threats of sympathy strike action, imports have been rising through small ports and the coal board has been able to fulfill its export contracts by buying coal abroad and bearing the inevitable increased cost.

British Steel's dependence on coal board supplies is the major factor affecting the implementation of such a policy. The social effects in mining communities, where a higher than average proportion of homes depend on coal for heating, are also being considered by the Government.

However, import figures show that foreign coal could meet domestic and most industrial needs, while increased oil imports could meet any shortages encountered by the power industry and by other industrial users.

By diverting all NCB output, now running at 400,000 tonnes a week from working pits and 300,000 tonnes from opencast sites, and by starting to move pithead stocks to the power stations, the government could meet its obligations to the power industry and by other industrial users.

Continued on back page, col 2

Acas peace talks to resume today

Leaders of both the coal industry and the coal unions made everyone play a waiting game last night as their talks aimed at settling the 21-week pit strike went on into the evening.

Few hints of how the talks were progressing came out of the London headquarters of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Just after 7.30 pm, when the leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers took a stroll around St James Square, followed by their colleagues from the pit deputies union, Nacods, the chief Acas conciliator officer, Mr Dennis Boyd, asked journalists not to question them at that stage.

Earlier when asked if there would be any movement from the NCB side, coal board chairman Mr Ian MacGregor replied: "We have been too generous already."

NUM president Mr Arthur Scargill also gave no appearance of offering any new proposals. "The old ones are satisfactory," he said.

It was the first time the NUM and the board had met face-to-face since the last and fourth round of peace talks broke down a month ago.

Leaders of Nacods, whose proposal for independent arbitration on pit closures led to the new initiative, arrived at Acas offices two hours after the talks began and joined the discussions after the lunch adjournment.

The Acas chairman, Mr Paul Lowry, faces an uphill task in finding common ground between the two sides. It was made no easier by Wednesday's high court contempt fines on the NUM and Mr Scargill and the tough anti-union speeches at the Conservative party conference at Brighton.

Ruade defends church, Miners in court, page 2

Five die and 60 hurt in Wembley train collision

By David Nicholson-Lord

At least five people were killed and more than 60 injured when a commuter train from London Euston crashed into a derailed freight train at Wembley Central station, north London, last night. British Transport Police feared the death toll could rise to seven as attempts to free trapped passengers continued. Thirty firemen with cutting gear were working throughout the night. One report said a dozen people were still trapped in the leading coach.

The crash happened only minutes after the 5.54 train for Slough, carrying several hundred passengers, left Euston. It ran into the rear of a freight train travelling from Willesden to Holyhead, in north Wales. Two of the freight train's wagons had earlier come off the tracks.

First reports indicated that two of eight passenger coaches came off the track, skewing sideways and blocking the main London-Glasgow line.

Police said that four people had been killed and 60 people injured seven of them seriously. Ambulances ferried casualties to Northwick Park and Central Middlesex Hospitals.

Then five people who died were trapped in the leading coach of the passenger train.

Eighteen of the casualties were taken to the Central Middlesex Hospital where a hospital spokesman described their injuries as mainly "minor". The spokesman added: "They are just suffering from cuts and bruises and similar injuries. There may be a few minor operations but there will be nothing serious at all."

The crash happened about 20 or 30 yards south of Wembley Central station, just clear of the platform, according to British Transport Police.

A police spokesman said that the cause of the freight train derailment was not known. The diesel-powered train was on a different line from the electric passenger train.

"The freight train came off its own line but whether it lay on the other track we do not know for certain. It is quite possible that the driver of the passenger train did not see the derailment ahead."

The crash caused chaos to London Midland Inter-City and commuter trains into and out of Euston. A British Rail spokesman said all six tracks to Euston were blocked.

Scotland Yard issued an emergency telephone number for friends and relatives to call. The number is 01 828 3666.

A dozen people were still feared trapped in the carriages two hours after the crash. As a helicopter hovered over the station using a searchlight to help rescuers, a fire brigade spokesman said firemen expected to be working through the night to free the remaining passengers.

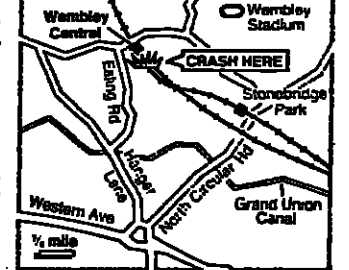
Thirty firemen using cutting gear were working on the overturned carriages and dozens of ambulances were taking casualties to hospital. Early reports said there were more than 500 people on board the commuter train.

The crash caused serious traffic hold-ups throughout north-west London as parts of Wembley High Road and other roads near the station were closed for the passage of ambulances and fire-engines. Delays stretched as far as the southern end of the M1 motorway.

The AA was last night advising motorists to give the area around the station a wide berth. A spokesman said: "Traffic is at a standstill."

Thirteen people were killed and 44 injured when a rush-hour train careered off the rails near Falkirk, in central Scotland, on July 30. This was Britain's most serious rail disaster for 17 years.

On June 24 an Aberdeen-to-London sleeper train wrecked two houses and tore up more than 100 yards of track when it left the rails just south of Morpeth, Northumberland. No one was killed and only five were detained in hospital.



US woman's spacewalk

The shuttle astronaut Kathryn Sullivan yesterday became the first American woman to walk in space in a daring experiment to test hardware for future refuelling of orbiting satellites (Mohsin Ali writes from Washington).

Miss Sullivan, aged 32, a geologist and oceanographer, and Lieutenant-Commander David Leestma, aged 35, began their space stroll at 1643 BST, NASA said. Mr Leestma came out first.

They spent about four hours moving about the open cargo bay of the space shuttle Challenger, remaining attached to the ship at all times as it cruised 137 miles above Earth.

Last July the Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the first woman to walk in space.

Miss Sullivan's and Mr Leestma's main task was to transfer 550lb of cold, toxic hydrazine fuel from one tank to another.

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Higher interest rate and pit strike dampen house buyers' confidence

By Christopher Warman, Property Correspondent

Confidence shown by house buyers in the first half of the year has "evaporated in the face of concerns about higher interest rates and alarm at the consequences of the long-running miners' dispute," the latest survey of house prices published today says.

The survey, taken in the last week of September, indicates that the rate of house price increases more than halved between the second and third quarters of the year. In the quarter ending in September, the average price of houses and flats in England and Wales went up by 1.6 per cent, compared with 3.8 per cent in the previous quarter, figures from the *Financial Weekly* Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers survey show.

The society expects house prices to remain stable to the end of the year, with small increases in the south. It expects an increase of over the year of about 8 per cent to 8.5 per cent on average ranging from 10 per cent to 12 per cent in the South-east to 4 per cent 8 per cent elsewhere.

There has been no evidence that house prices have been checked because of a shortage of mortgage funds, which has often happened in the past. The slowing of demand has tended to affect the market for larger houses.

In the latest quarter, prices for larger semi-detached and detached houses increased by 0.6 per cent 1.6 per cent, while properties at the lower end of the market, such as flats, modern and older terrace properties went up by 1.7 per cent to 3.7 per cent.

Commenting on the findings, Mr John Phillips, the president, said the tailing off of confidence has checked demand and the appreciation in house values, "In this climate, those entering the market as first-time buyers may well get a good buy, albeit that their mortgage costs will be higher than was the case earlier in the year. However, those moving home with house to sell may well find sales are now difficult to complete, with one or more sellers in a chain having difficulty in finding a buyer or in achieving the sale price they need."

| Average house prices in regions | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------|----------|------------|------------|
| | South-east | West | Midlands | North-west | North-east |
| Apr 78 | 221,346 | 16,993 | 15,148 | 16,501 | 16,013 |
| Mar 83 | 40,138 | 31,645 | 27,105 | 27,686 | 25,600 |
| Jun 83 | 39,672 | 31,559 | 26,649 | 27,686 | 25,655 |
| Oct 83 | 41,782 | 33,217 | 26,351 | 28,100 | 25,533 |
| Dec 83 | 45,180 | 33,729 | 28,911 | 28,384 | 27,308 |
| Mar 84 | 48,740 | 34,235 | 28,108 | 28,688 | 28,618 |
| Jun 84 | 48,556 | 35,248 | 27,110 | 30,709 | 29,628 |
| Oct 84 | 48,852 | 36,044 | 27,715 | 30,850 | 29,683 |

Advice on managing the boss

Despairing employees who get on badly with the boss should try being nice to him and finding out what makes him tick, Dr Bob Mezoff, an American management training consultant, advises.

He believes that positive action to strike up a rapport with an overbearing top man is better than resigning, or sulking.

Dr Mezoff, a professional speaker and a former university business school professor, who presents workshops and seminars on "How to Manage your Boss", gave British executives a taste of his theories in London.

They were attending his course on upward management, which is aimed at senior executives but whose sentiments could apply to anyone with a troublesome superior.

Managing your boss does not mean bossing your manager," Dr Mezoff emphasizes. "It means understanding your boss and managing yourself." He says that subordinates should take the initiative to improve a soured office relationship, even if it goes against accepted office practice.

Dr Mezoff believes most bosses are "kind, decent, caring people" doing the best they can. But he is not guaranteeing success. He adds: "If you're working for someone like Idi Amin, then I would suggest you quit."

ICI drive for plastic bottle banks

Imperial Chemical Industries announced a campaign to reeducate British families out of a throwaway mentality towards plastic drinks bottles.

It has a vested interest in doing so, for ICI Fibres also disclosed that it is to spend £16m on doubling its capacity at its Teesside plant making polyethylene terephthalate (PET), the tougher type of plastic used to make the larger-sized soft drinks and beer bottles.

By the end of next year, it will produce enough PET to make the equivalent of 750 million 1.5 litre bottles.

For the past two years, ICI has been running trials in Leeds and Bradford with plastic bottle banks. Miss Sally Jackson, the company's environmental officer said: "We have, of course, had all sort of things dumped in them such as fish and chip wrappings. But 85 per cent has been PET-type plastic bottles."

ICI has 60 per cent of the European market for PET-type bottles and is the world's second-largest producer after Eastman Kodak of the US. It has already developed new containers which can be hot-filled so that in about two years jams, ketchups and other products will be sold in them.

Clamps cut parking offences by 40%

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Wheel-clamping in central London has reduced illegal parking on yellow lines by up to 40 per cent since it was introduced in May last year, according to a study by the Transport and Road Research Laboratory published yesterday.

Traffic speeds increased markedly in the clamping areas although the total volume of traffic increased, the report says, and journey times were reduced by 8 per cent to 14 per cent, resulting in yearly savings of from £9m to £15m in motorists' costs at 1979 prices.

No decision has been taken whether to make wheel-clamping a permanent form of parking and traffic control in London as it is in some parts of the United States.

A two-year experiment approved by Parliament for the area from Kensington and Notting Hill in the west to Bloomsbury in the east expires next May.

Finding a car clamped will cost a driver nearly £30 in cash and up to two hours delay before he or she can drive off.

The *Effect of Wheel-Clamping in Central London*, by R. M. Kimber (LR1136, Transport and Road Research Laboratory, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG11 6AU).

Disc player for dashboards

Sony, the large Japanese electronics manufacturer, has launched the world's first portable compact disc player, which can be fitted into the dashboard of a car and played without any distortion through vibration.

The disc is the size of a beer mat, produces high-quality stereo sound and uses a laser, instead of a conventional stylus, to extract the sound from the disc. The system is based on technology originally developed by the European electronics group, Philips, but was then further developed jointly with Sony.

Woganshort-list

Russell Harty, Michael Aspel and Tony Blackburn are believed to be on the short-list to replace Terry Wogan when he leaves his breakfast-time Radio Two show at the end of the year. Mr Wogan said yesterday he would possibly be back to do a weekend show.

Faldo petition

Nick Faldo, aged 26, the golfer appears in the latest list of undefended cases to be heard later this month in the London Divorce Court. He is not defending the postal divorce being sought by his wife Melanie, also aged 26.

Boy's success story told as father is bankrupt

From Our Correspondent, York

A boy aged 14 has been left with the task of rebuilding a family business which crashed this week with debts of more than £141,000.

Paul Sleightholme started rearing sheep alongside his grandfather's and father's pig breeding and agricultural haulage business three years ago with £50 Christmas present.

York bankruptcy court, was told that Paul's sheeprearing prospered but his father's and grandfather's business with a £500,000 turnover floundered.

His father, Mr Robert Clive Sleightholme, aged 36, of The Bungalow, Acaster Airfield, near York, said Paul had been rearing sheep since he was 11. He specialized in rare breeds and his flock had multiplied to 120, worth about £4,500. He said that Paul had his own bank account, his own computer number at the market and accounts with auctioneers at York, Pannal, Malton and other markets.

The registrar, Mr Peter Bullock, warned his father when declaring him bankrupt that he could not incur any debts for at least five years and that his son was not old enough to contract any debts.

The court was told that Mr Sleightholme, his father Eric, aged 57, of The Birches, Acaster Malbis, and another partner Neil Hudson, aged 28, of Acaster, Bishopthorpe, had been living at the door of bankruptcy for four or five years and could all be made homeless as a result of all three being declared bankrupt. The registrar asked the receiver to investigate Paul's flock of sheep.



Paul Sleightholme: "Own accounts at auctions".

Stricter code for sales promotions

By Robin Young

A new code of practice designed to curb irresponsible sales promotions was unveiled yesterday by the Advertising Standards Authority.

The authority has received 173 complaints from the public about promotions so far this year, compared with 98 all last year.

The revised code says that promotions should not conflict with public interest, particularly by provoking anti-social behaviour, damage to property or nuisance to the public. This clause is intended to put an end to promotions such as Cadbury's Golden Egg hunt, called "Tatter

extensive damage was done by treasure hunters digging around ancient monuments.

The code also stipulates that promoters must take reasonable steps to ensure that material reaches only those for whom it is suitable; some bizarre promotions have resulted in pornography being mailed to children.

The revised code tightens requirements about making clear any conditions restricting participation in an advertised promotion before any purchase is made.

It also contains new clauses to ensure consumers' rights to reasonable privacy. When a consumer wants his name removed from a mailing list, all possible steps are to be taken to see that it is done quickly, and mailing lists compiled on behalf of sales promoters are to be regarded as confidential.

The code also stipulates that the words "win" and "prize" must not be missed in prize draw promotions to describe gifts which are offered to all participants.

In addition to complaints from the public, the authority's own monitoring had led to investigations into 78 promotions this year.

Table wine sales increase by 29%

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Table wine trade rose by nearly 29 per cent by volume in July according to the latest analyses by the Wine and Spirit Association, which estimates that there are 1,500,000 new consumers of wine.

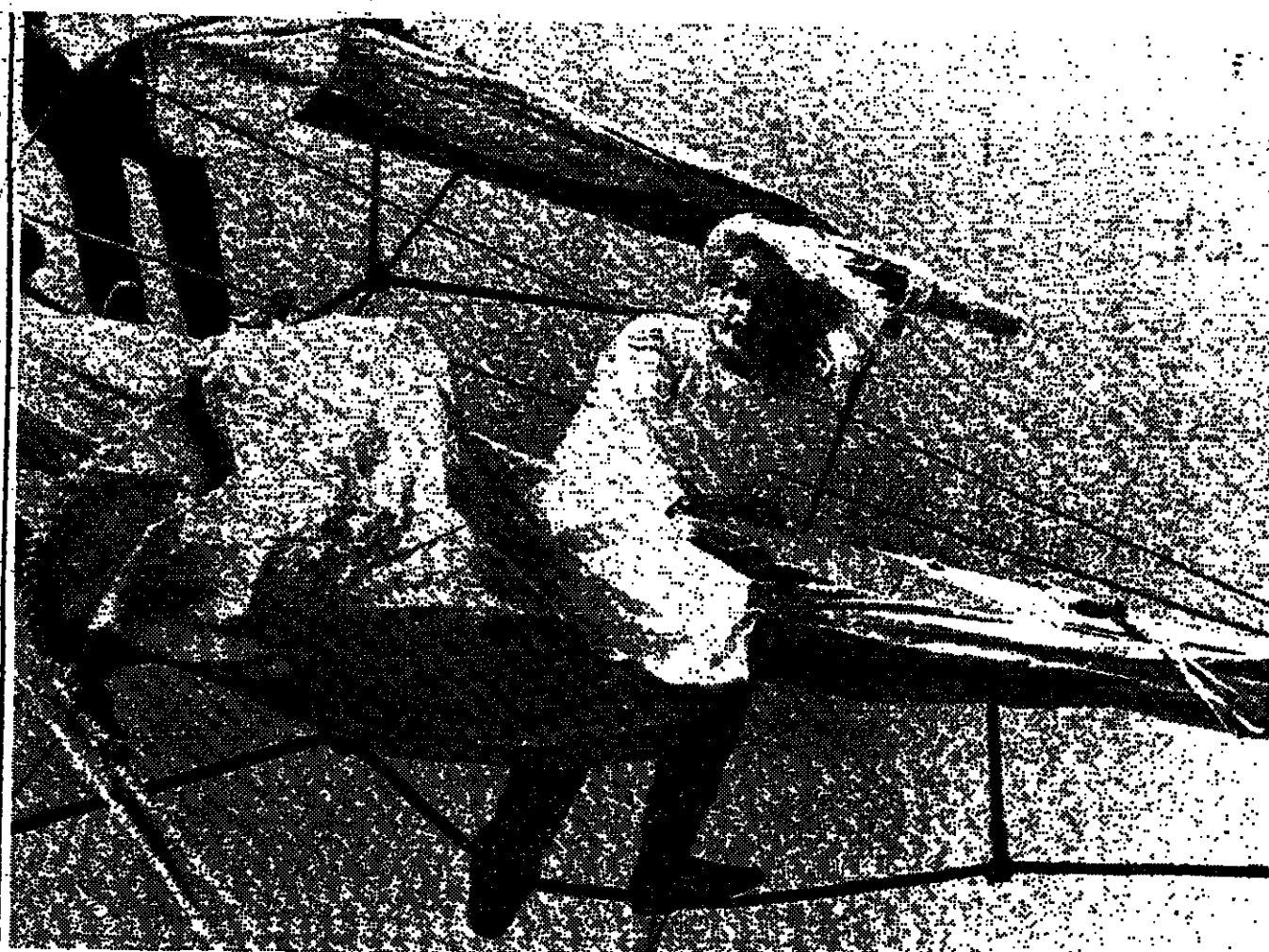
The evidence for a new wine boom was becoming more solid, the association said. With pre-Christmas buying already starting, it looked as if table wine sales could increase by at least 15 per cent during the calendar year, it added.

This implies sales running nearer the July level from now because the big surge in trade came after price reductions in the last Budget with sales subsequently bolstered by the hot weather.

The association measures trade in wine at the point where it is cleared from bond and delivered into the retail system. July clearances of table wine were up 28.8 per cent in volume compared with the same month of 1983, with sparkling wines up 20.8 per cent. The July table wine increase comes after a 15.8 per cent rise in clearances in June and of about 40 per cent in April and May which partly reflected restocking after pre-Budget sales.

The sharp increases in wine sales in recent months are having considerable impact on 12-month analyses which indicate the overall trend in wine sales. Table wines in the 12 months to the end of July show an increase of 13.1 per cent, almost double the June figure of 7.5 per cent. In May the trend figure showed a rise of 6.5 per cent.

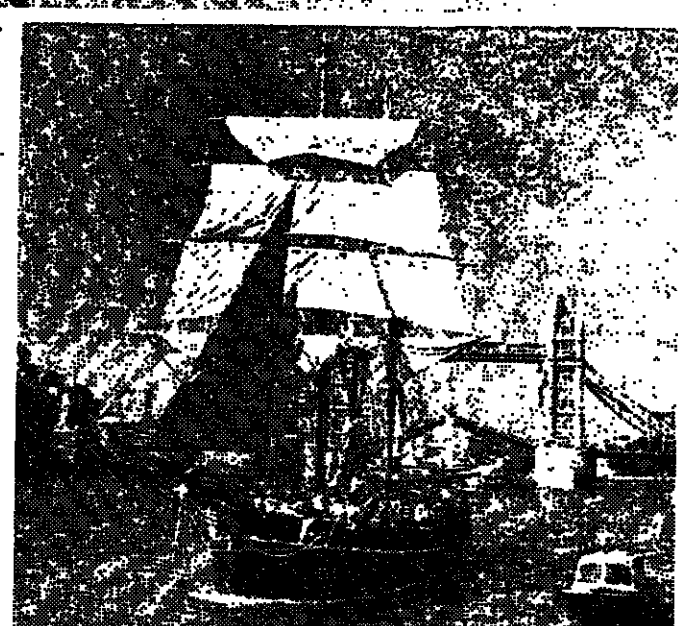
Fortified wines such as sherry and port, whose sales have been sluggish, are also improving. Clearances in July were up 22 per cent in the medium and heavy wine sectors. This also means that vermouth clearances are up.



Off to Sea: Four years of worldwide adventure began yesterday when the first batch of 16 youngsters on Operation Raleigh set sail from the Tower of London on the 72 feet long brigantine Zebu (right).

The square-rigged vessel and its sister ship, the Sir Walter Raleigh, will provide sail and diving training for 4,000 volunteers from 50 countries, among them Vanessa Hetherington, aged 18, from Richmond, Surrey (above).

The Prince of Wales, who has been a driving force behind the expedition, will watch the Sir Walter Raleigh sail from Hull next month with 200 young people on board. Photo graphs: Suresh Keradia.



80 NOVEMBER 1984

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

BIGGEST EVER ISSUE

TRUE, Good Housekeeping has the definitive voice on all things domestic, cookable, and swiggable, but that's only the start of it. Take the November issue - our biggest yet. Sizzling with ideas, news, views, and who's doing interestingly what!

Like the interview with Rosalind Wiseman whose life at Lambeth Palace is not all tea and roses...the feature on Timesharing where

the truth (some of it murky) is exposed...the survey of Perfume and Personality with an in-depth sniff-in of 15 different scents...the scaring indictment of Britain's record v. the World in practical help for the working mother...

But why not tuck into our November issue yourself? It's big enough to inspire you all the way to December.

THE ESSENTIAL MAGAZINE

CONSERVATIVE PARTY CONFERENCE

● Share ownership

● Jobs boost

● Gromyko visit

Commentary

Government to double adult training places, King announces

Reports by Alan Wood, Robert Morgan, Derek Bassett, Howard Underwood and Anthony Hodges

The Government is to double the number of training places for adults, including provision within the community programme, Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, announced yesterday. He made the announcement when replying to a debate on employment at the Conservative Party conference in Brighton.

Outlining measures the Government had taken and intended to take to provide more employment opportunities, he said the Government would increase the potential for jobs in small businesses and self-employment. The Enterprise Allowance Scheme had proved popular and the Government would continue to build on it.

Mrs Sally Williams, Ceredigion and Pembroke North, moved a motion acknowledging that the Government had made a positive contribution to assist the unemployed to find work but arguing that there was still a gap between help available and the needs of those unemployed.

She said caring about the unemployed was not just showing sympathy but taking action to remove them from the dole queue. Established companies must show far more commitment to investment in people as well as in machinery. The Conservative Party must rid itself of the anti-union image.

Mr Ivor Humphrey, Bassetlaw, said someone must have the courage to tell the Cabinet that it appeared to lack compassion and understanding.

Mrs Alison Wilson, Leicester, said there was not a good enough relationship between schools, careers officers and industry, in particular the private sector industries.

Mr Nicholas Mearns-Smith, Bournemouth, said the price of labour obeyed the same economic rules as everything else. If you reduced the price of labour you would increase demand.

Mr Colin Hancock, South Suffolk, said that the closed shop benefited the union rulers and not the ruled. The abolition of the closed shop would not solve all the problems, but it would make a significant difference.

Mr Chris Boswell, Birkenhead, said he was one of a delegation of eight from Cammell Laird's shipyard which had come to lobby ministers and others to save the shipyard. The party and Government had to encourage the moderates.

Mr King said he readily accepted the motion which recognized the contribution the Government made while challenging it to do more. It would have been wrong for conference not to have addressed itself directly to the issue.



In step: Mrs Thatcher with Mr Tim Butcher at the Young Conservatives' dance (Photograph: John Voos).

Shorter working week 'will not reduce unemployment'

By David Walker

Shorter working hours and four-day weeks will not reduce unemployment, a report from the Policy Studies Institute, based on a survey of the building, engineering and printing trades, has concluded.

The survey of companies during the past four years showed that when they reduced hours yet maintained levels of production, it was not by taking on extra staff. Instead, companies increased the amount of overtime worked or reorganized production to cut out tea breaks and non-productive time allowed for "washing up" or "clocking on".

The institute's researchers, commissioned by the Department of Employment, found in some firms that by abandoning

work on Friday afternoons production was increased overall because of end-of-the-week lassitude among workers.

When working hours were reduced in engineering, managers became much tougher about how the available time was being used. With surprisingly little opposition from the unions, many companies moved during 1981 and 1982 to end tea breaks. Others tightened up on absence from work and insisted on workers beginning their tasks as soon as scheduled breaks ended.

An unexpected finding came from the building industry where overtime working has increased in many companies after nationally-negotiated cuts in the working week. Managers,

not only in construction, emphasized the need for flexibility in organizing workforces.

According to the PSI many companies have found that when working hours are reduced, the productivity of workers can be raised fairly easily: by investment in new equipment or by changing the way workers use their time in factories, print shops and building sites. The study pinpointed the gap between union negotiators at national level determining standard hours of work and local agreements between managers and workers.

Shorter Working Hours in Practice (Michael White and Abby Ghebadi, PSI 1, Castle Lane, London SW1E 6DR, £5.50).

Mackerel fishing grounds open early

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

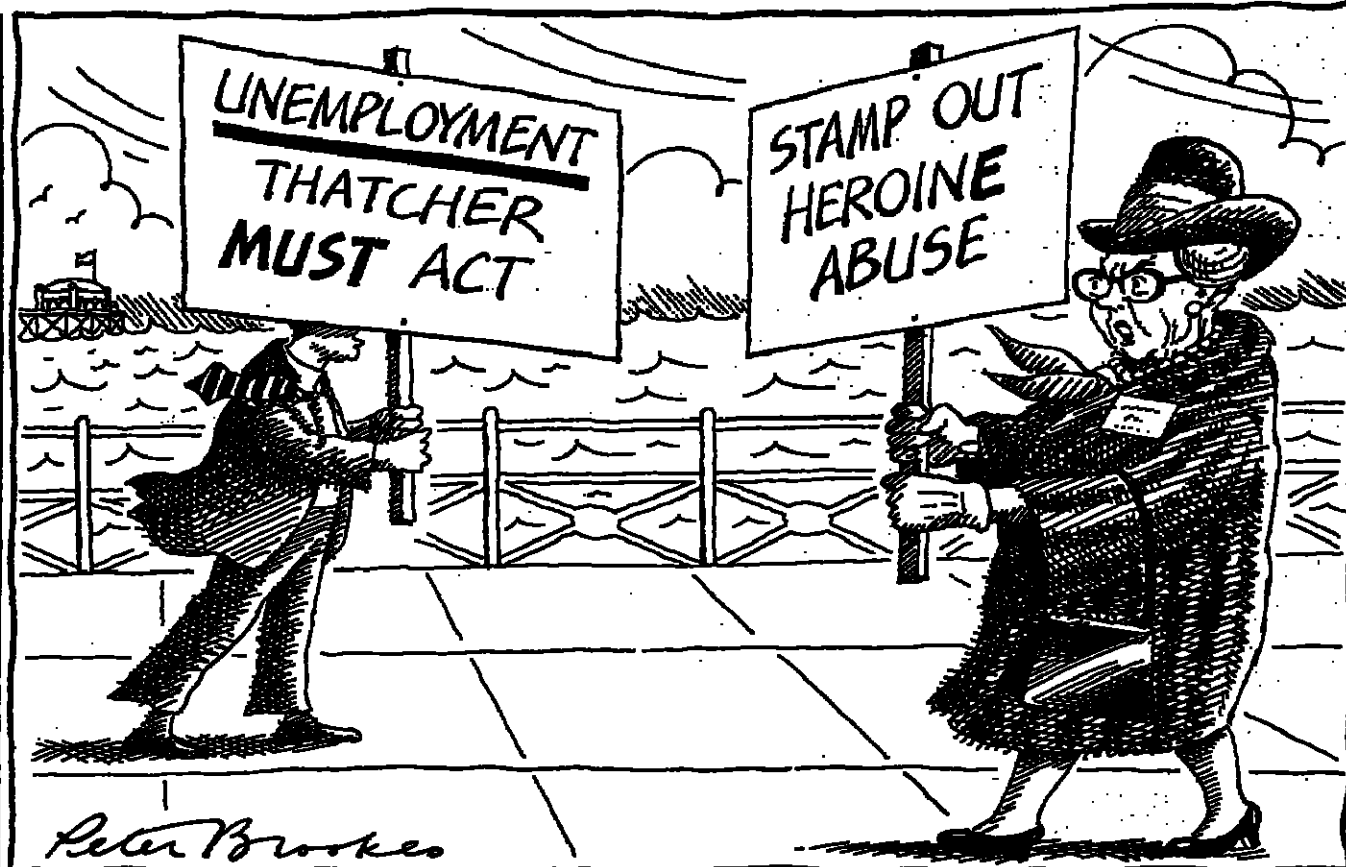
The south-west Mackerel Fishery will open today, a month earlier than usual, because catches in the Minch off the west coast of Scotland, have been seriously depleted. Overfishing by Dutch vessels earlier this summer is widely

thought to be responsible. There will be restrictions on the activities of large Scottish trawlers.

The Scots will be prohibited from fishing within six miles of the coast of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly during

daylight hours, and there will be a total ban on an area around Start Point to protect the local crab industry.

There will also be a 150-tonne weekly catch limit within the so-called "mackerel box".



Farmers get pledge on milk quotas from Joplin

Defending himself against the criticisms of dairy farmers about the severe impact of milk quotas, Mr Michael Joplin, Minister of Agriculture, declared this year when, at British insistence, the EEC Common Agricultural Policy was made to face reality.

Measures taken in the spring had signalled an end to the misguided philosophy of production at any cost. The United Kingdom did not get a raw deal on milk quotas. As for farmers on milk quotas and everything else the UK would play the rules but its continental partners would not, he would do everything he could to see that did not happen.

His concept of a modern British agriculture industry for the rest of the decade and beyond was based on four principles.

● A better balance between supply and demand. They needed to be more competitive on prices and costs.

● A static domestic market meant they must carve out for the food industry a bigger share of home, European and world markets by improving quality and marketing.

● Help for farmers to meet changing demands on diet, food labelling and pesticide control. They were reviewing animal welfare codes of practice.

● He wanted greater emphasis on and understanding of the farmer's role in conservation.

Mr Joplin sympathized with farmers who felt aggrieved by the rapid introduction of milk quotas, a bureaucratic nightmare, but they could have had more warning if other heads of government in the EEC had been prepared to grasp the nettle in Athens in December last year when the Prime Minister

To have deferred the scheme for three months after April would have cost £250m and that was impossible to contemplate.

The conference carried a motion, moved by Mr Peter Talbot, North Norfolk, that acknowledged the need for economies in the soaring cost of the CAP, urged the Government to ensure that the British farmer was treated fairly in comparison with his European equivalent and that UK policies directly supporting agriculture were maintained.

Mr John Taylor, Holland and Boston, said farmers were worried as to how far the Government could be relied upon to maintain its commitment to a productive and prosperous countryside.

Gromyko to visit Britain for more talks with Howe

Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has accepted an invitation from Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to come to Britain in 1985 for the next round of talks between the two. Sir Geoffrey, in making this announcement, pledged that the Government would continue to strive with all its might for genuine balanced measures of arms control as the only true foundation for security and peace.

Recalling that Mrs Margaret Thatcher and he had been to Moscow and Budapest for talks with the Soviet and Hungarian leaders, Sir Geoffrey, replying to a debate on foreign affairs, said he had hammered home their aims at each of his five meetings with Mr Gromyko in the past year. What seemed to separate them was the meaning attached to words when there was similarity in what they said were the basic aims of their people.

The problem was to find a way of bridging the gap, a way of matching the expressed desire of both peoples for peace and security. The West had made far-reaching, practical proposals in every arms control negotiation but no one could talk to an empty chair.

He continued: "I hope the Soviet Union will find the political will to take their place at the negotiating table. The world is looking for a positive Soviet response. When they do come back, they will find us ready and willing to talk."

The debate was opened by Sir Donald Walters, Cardiff



Sir Geoffrey Howe: Arms pledge

North, who moved a resolution, later carried, supporting the Government's initiative to reduce tension between the communist block and the free world, to secure balance and verifiable disarmament and thereby free resources for the promotion of wealth throughout the world.

He said that western Europe had enjoyed nearly 40 years of peace because of its collective will and resolution to preserve freedom of the individual and the democratic way of life and because it had the military capability, which it would use if necessary, to protect itself. Western Europe was a danger to no one. It did not seek to expand its borders, nor subjugate other people.

The West strengthened from a position of strength or it was wasting its time. Worse, it was

putting the democratic way of life in peril.

Sir Geoffrey, referring to last week's Labour conference decisions, said the British people knew that one-sided disarmament was not the path to peace. Unbelievably, Mr Neil Kinnock had stated that the United States and the Soviet Union posed an "almost miserable equality of threat to Britain".

He continued to loud applause: "Let there be no doubt about the feelings of this conference. This party and the British people know who their friends are and we shall stick by them."

The Government was determined that the voice of Europe should be heard more clearly in the world.

All the restrictions and obstacles to growing-trade and better job prospects in Europe were an affront to the principle of the Common Market. It must be Britain's and Europe's purpose to sweep these barriers away.

At a conference European rally, Mr John Gummer, the party chairman, announced that the European office, dealing with the affairs of the European Parliament, was to be transferred from the international office to the home services department of Conservative Central Office, and he would take personal charge of relations between Euro-mps and the party at Westminster. He said it was a reaffirmation of the party's total commitment to Europe.

More home ownership backed by delegates

The next housing Bill would carry further the process of reforming the rent Acts, Mr Len Gou, Minister for Housing and Construction, said in replying to the debate on homes and land.

Mr Michael Woodhall, a chartered surveyor and landlord, from Romsey and Water-side, had declared that Britain faced a formidable shortfall in rented accommodation in the near future.

Mr Woodhall contended that given a freer market in rental levels and rent Acts reform, private developers and private owners would be encouraged to look upon the residential property market as an investment.

Mr Gou agreed. The rent Acts had, he said, injured those they were designed to help. They had contributed to the drying up of private rented accommodation and had harmed

the interests of landlords and tenants alike.

There were other housing policy critics during the debate on a motion, moved by Mr John Wylie, Fulham, and subsequently carried, which congratulated the Government on the success of its measures to expand home ownership among council and housing association tenants. It also urged other policies to bring home ownership to the tenants of council property less suitable for sale, such as older, flatted estates or high-rise blocks.

Mr Gou said that many appalling housing conditions existed because of bad design, construction and housing management. To meet complaints from public sector tenants about long delays over repairs, they would soon be given the right to carry out repairs and receive payment from their landlord.

'Local enterprise week' to help small businesses

There is to be a local enterprise week in May next year to encourage small and newly established firms to take advice on how to run their enterprises, Mr David Tripper, Under Secretary of State for Industry, said when replying to a debate on small businesses.

The Government, he said, was devoting a great deal of time and energy to promote awareness of the whole range of advice available to small firms. The growth of small businesses is one of the most essential elements in the increasing competitiveness and efficiency of the economy.

The Government was determined not to let the entrepreneurial spirit wither. Support for small firms had been central to economic and industrial policies in Britain and the international economic recession.

"Even though it is clear that we are slowly climbing out of recession, it is inconceivable

Spread of shares aim for Telecom

The Government would be making the launch of British Telecom another step on the road to wider share ownership, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, declared in replying to a debate on free enterprise and industry. He cautioned, in reporting on how plans had progressed, that he had to be careful. They were so close to flotation that he was governed by the stringent rules of prospectus law.

Mr Tebbit said the press might see success or failure in terms of how much cash they raised or whether trading opened at a premium or discount. "I see success or failure not just in those terms but of how widely we can spread the ownership of BT and how well it would serve its customers under the stimulus of competition and the watchful eye of the Director General of the Office of Telecommunications". While the Labour Party called at the Government's proposals, other countries - not least Japan - were looking at what Britain was doing and would, he believed, follow suit.

Reporting the best year ever for inward investment to the UK, Mr Tebbit said that so long as Labour was committed to renationalization the voters would never give them the power to do it.

There would not be a rigid government programme of privatization. They would retain flexibility but there would be more candidates.

Mr Tebbit, who received a prolonged standing ovation, said he could not emphasize too strongly that the privatization programme was not driven by some overwhelming imperative to raise cash. It was driven by the pragmatic conclusions that nationalization did not work and that free enterprise did.

The centralized state control of commercial decision-making was inherently inefficient. Economic power should not be concentrated within a political power. These were the twin pillars of the Government's privatization policy.

Mr Raymond Robertson, Scottish Conservative Unionist Association, moved the conference carried a motion expressing the belief that industry in private ownership was a fundamental part of a free society and calling upon the Government to make known its long-term plans for the privatization of the nationalized industries. He said privatization was not a cheap gimmick but the manifestation of their commitment to a free society and share-owning democracy.

Geoffrey Smith

Mrs Thatcher will be addressing today a conference that has been quiet, loyal but uneasy. Those of us who travel round the conference circuit may tend to under-value the Conservative asset of loyalty. We look for dramatic effects, and we are usually disappointed at these Tory gatherings.

Never has that been more true than at Brighton this week. It has been for most of the time a decidedly dull conference. But at least this gives ministers the party backing to try to grapple with the country's problems.

Conservative conferences do not panic easily. Otherwise there would have been more than a sense of unease at Brighton. The party has been distinctly rattled by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Conservatives like to feel that they are on the side of the angels, and they feel that the world has somehow turned upside down when they are denounced by the senior representative of the angels.

The extent to which they have been disturbed was evident in the relief with which they applauded the Provost of Inverness Cathedral on Wednesday. Thank Heaven, they seemed to be saying, that someone in the Church still appreciates us.

Unemployment as a political issue

The Conservative have this week been rediscovering unemployment as a political issue, as distinct from a national anxiety. They have been responding to what, I believe, potentially the most important political development in Britain this year.

The paradox of the political scene over the past few years is that it has been dominated by the governing party at a time when unemployment has been running at record and rising levels. Given the deep, instinctive fear of unemployment in this country, this has been truly remarkable.

It can be explained only by the belief that unemployment was not the fault of the Government, that it was a natural catastrophe from which all countries in the western world were suffering, and from which no individual nation could reasonably hope to escape.

I first encountered this public reaction during the Birmingham North-East by-election in October, 1982. It was very evident during the general election.

Labour leaders never seemed to appreciate its significance. It meant that they were wasting their time when they banded on about the horrors of unemployment. Everyone agreed with them, but not many votes were going to be swung on that score.

Mrs Thatcher's task today

But during this summer it seemed that the wind might be changing. I became aware of this on the doorstep during the European elections, and it appeared to borne out by the Portsmouth South by-election result on the same day. Reports suggested that one of the reasons for the surprise Conservative defeat was the electoral disenchantment over unemployment.

Now that disenchantment is widespread - not just disenchantment with the fact of unemployment, which has been evident for years, but disenchantment with the Government's failure to deal with it.

It has been clear this week that the Conservative Party shares this interpretation of the public mood. Unemployment is back on the political agenda. It has replaced inflation as the party's principal political anxiety.

This presents the Government with a test of analysis of nerve and of presentation. It cannot afford to look as if it is doing nothing.

But the Government would get the worst of all worlds if it was simply to reverse course. It would lose the credit for consistency without removing the scourge of unemployment. What are required are a number of imaginative developments, economic strategy. The improvements in industrial training announced by Mr Tom King yesterday are a step in that direction.

But there will have to be skill in presentation if the Government's response is to seem more than cosmetic treatment. This will be Mrs Thatcher's task today. It is not an occasion for detailed policy pronouncements. But she will have to persuade her audience that the Government can do something about unemployment without performing the dreaded U-turn.

Grant loss raises fears for college

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Fears about the future character of Atlantic College in South Wales, the first of the six United World Colleges, which was formed to promote international understanding, have been raised because of the withdrawal of a £100,000 grant from the EEC.

Local authority education cuts in Britain and the international economic recession have also contributed to concern that its fundamental aims could be endangered.

Mr Andrew Stuart, the headmaster, said yesterday: "We certainly do not want to become just another fee-paying college for the sons of rich Arab oil sheikhs."

It is college policy that most places are open to all, irrespective of parental income. Students are holders of scholarships needing high academic and personal qualifications.

The £100,000 EEC grant provided places at the £5,000-a-year college at St Donats for 10 students from Third World countries.

Fees for the 368 students from 60 countries at the college largely come from fund-raising programmes, government agencies, companies, individuals and foundations. There is no central endowment, and Mr Stuart estimates it would require about £15m to ensure its permanent success.

School drug story denial

A sixth former's revelations at the Conservative Party conference on Wednesday about drug-taking at his school were yesterday dismissed as untrue by his headmaster.

Mr Richard Proctor, head of Oxford Boys' Comprehensive School, said the claims by Mr Colin Dobson, aged 18, were ludicrous.

"Without being unkind, you might find he is saying things more for rhetorical effect than to be strictly accurate."



Dog's Day: Vicky Mitchell, aged 12, and her brother Gregory, aged nine, with their four-year-old pet whippet, "Lady", one of three dogs chosen yesterday for a walk-on part in the forthcoming West End musical *The Hired Man*.

During the auditions, the cast of 17 burst into song to test the dogs' resistance to stage fright. (Photograph: Dod Miller).

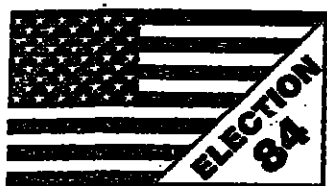
TV debate raises age factor

Democrats think they have exposed Reagan Achilles heel

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The first poll findings since last Sunday's presidential debate have started to emerge and, as was expected, they show that Walter Mondale's superior performance during the 90-minute confrontation has reduced President Reagan's huge lead by a few points.

Although the President remains well ahead, Democrats



hope that last night's Vice-Presidential debate between Ms Geraldine Ferraro and Mr George Bush, together with the second Reagan-Mondale joust on October 21, will accelerate the momentum which Mr Mondale's campaign has developed since last Sunday.

At the same time, Democrats believe they have at last exposed the President's Achilles heel by raising the issue of his age and competence after his lacklustre performance during the first debate.

According to a Washington Post ABC News poll, the President's lead over his democratic rival had been reduced

from 16 to 13 percentage points since the Louisville debate.

A New York Times/CBS News poll showed that the debate had had a negligible effect on committee voters of either party, but that Mr Reagan's lead among undecided voters had slipped from 26 to 23 points.

What was significant, however, was that both polls showed that Mr Mondale's personal rating with voters had improved dramatically as a result of his confident and competent performance.

Mr Mondale has been trying to build on this impression over the past three days with a series of rousing campaign speeches delivered before enthusiastic audiences as he stomped around the Democratic Party's heartland in the Middle-West and north-east of the country.

Mr Mondale carefully avoided raising the issue of the President's age himself, leaving his aides and other Democratic Party leaders to plant the idea in the minds of the media that Mr Reagan was not up to another four years in office.

At 73, Mr Reagan is already the oldest man ever to occupy the Presidency. Although he appears in robust health, the Democrats suggested that his "listless" performance on Sunday night showed that he may be on the verge of senility.



School visitor: President Reagan joins children in Redford, Michigan in reciting the pledge of allegiance during a visit while campaigning in the state.

The press, desperate to inject an air of excitement into a race which seemed all but over, has jumped at the age issue. First into the fray was *The Wall Street Journal*, normally a strong Reagan supporter, which devoted its main article on Tuesday to what it termed the "fitness issue".

The other main newspapers and television networks quickly followed suit. The White House has responded by releasing the President's latest medical records which stated he was a mentally alert, robust man who appears younger than his stated age.

Mr Reagan himself has tried to make light of the issue by joking about the amount of make-up Mr Mondale was wearing during the debate and challenging him to all arm-wrestling match.

However, for once Mr Mondale has succeeded in capping Mr Reagan's own jokes. "The problem" Mr Mondale told a rally in Pittsburgh, "isn't make-up on the face. It's the make-up on those answers that gave you a problem".

Senate fight costs Helms dear

From Our Own Correspondent, Raleigh, North Carolina

The battle between Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina and the state's Governor, Mr James Hunt, is already the most costly Senate race in American history, and there are still more than three weeks of the campaign left.

By election day Senator Helms will have spent more than \$14m (£11.4m) in his attempt to win a fourth Senate term. Much of it is out-of-state money, from rightwing millionaires such as Mr Nelson Bunker Hunt and from the Moral Majority and other fundamentalist Christian groups.

Governor Hunt will have probably spent half that much - far more than he ever intended, but he needed to respond to the massive negative advertising campaign which Senator Helms has been directing against him for the past 18 months. The huge sums being

invested underscore the high stakes involved.

For a start, the Republican Party, battling to keep its 55-45 majority in the Senate, cannot afford to lose a seat held by one of the party's most prominent figures.

Second, the New Right, for whom Senator Helms has the status of a demigod, want to see him back in Washington to spearhead their attempts to force both the party and the Administration onto a more conservative course.

The race also has international implications. If Senator Helms wins and Senator Charles Percy is defeated in the Illinois Senate race, the North Carolinian would be the natural heir to Mr Percy's chairmanship of the Senate foreign relations committee.

The Helms-Hunt race has been described as the Old

South versus the New. Senator Helms, who is aged 62, is a former segregationist who still uses code words such as "block vote" to refer to office-seekers, such as Governor Hunt, who court the votes of blacks.

He appeals to poor whites, of whom there are still many in North Carolina, conservative businessmen and Christian fundamentalists.

Governor Hunt is part of a new generation of Southern Democrats who believe in such practical and unemotional things as fiscal discipline, economic growth, jobs and better education.

In the end it will be numbers that count. Both parties have undertaken vigorous voter registration drives.

Governor Hunt ought to have a slight edge as his political organization is vastly superior to Senator Helms'.

Pressure grows as Iceland shutdown enters second week

From Richard Ford, Reykjavik

Iceland's Parliament yesterday debated the national crisis arising from a strike by 17,000 public sector workers, while talks between the Government and unions on the dispute made no progress.

The left-of-centre Social Democratic Party is to put down a motion of no confidence in the handling of the industrial trouble but the right-wing Government of Mr Steingrímur Hermannsson, the Prime Minister.

The motion is unlikely to succeed, as the coalition administration has a comfortable majority in Parliament, but it will increase the pressure as the dispute enters its second week with no sign of a settlement.

The Government outlined its economic policies and the other measures it intends to introduce, including legislation which in effect would end the state monopoly on broadcasting.

Iceland has suffered a virtual news blackout with no papers, television or radio since the crisis began last month. Printers went on strike and were followed by public sector workers on October 4.

The state radio carries two 10-minute news bulletins, but the police, who are not striking, on Wednesday night closed two pirate stations which had been operating in defiance of the strike for ten days.

One hundred demonstrators protested as the police raided the illegal stations and Mr Ellet Schram shouted through a loud hailer: "I appeal to you all to support free radio. This is the proof of how we are dealing with the freedom of expression guaranteed by the constitution."

The public service workers have had a 30 per cent claim rejected by the Government, which is pursuing a tough anti-inflation policy.

An austerity package introduced when it came to office 17 months ago ended indexation of wages and has reduced the rate of inflation from 130 per cent a year to 12 per cent.

The government said that if it accepted the union's demand, inflation would rise to more than 80 per cent next year. Union leaders say living standards have slumped by 25 per cent. The Government has rejected an arbitrator's suggestion that its 3 per cent pay offer should be doubled, but The Prime Minister has offered to lower income tax rates. Discussions on those and the pay claim are taking place, but remain deadlocked.

The Prime Minister said yesterday that he was serious in wanting to talk to the union but that it would be unacceptable to make government funds bear the burden of the labour market.

The strike has closed schools, crèches, swimming pools and libraries used by Iceland's population of 235,453. There is now municipal bus services in the capital.

Flights into the international airport have resumed, but customs officers are threatening to stop work and four ships are stranded in the harbour.

Switchboards in most of the government ministries are not operating but elsewhere shops, banks, and hotels are open and industry working.

There are fears that perishables items such as fruit and vegetables may be in short supply by next week.



Jaroslav Seifert: 'Silenced' since 1968.

Nobel prize for silenced Czech poet

By Philip Howard
Literary Editor

The Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded yesterday to Jaroslav Seifert, aged 83, the unofficial poet laureate of Czechoslovakia and literary hero of resistance to the Nazis, whose voice has been silenced by the authorities since the brief "Prague Spring" of 1968.

The Swedish Academy said that it had chosen Seifert "for his poetry which, endowed with freshness, sensuality, and rich inventiveness, provides a liberating image of the indomitable spirit of man."

Like many true poets, Seifert is a dissident by nature. His earliest work, labelled "proletarian", was socialist, but with a human sympathy that stopped it becoming propaganda. He broke with the Communist Party after a visit to the Soviet Union in 1929.

After his experimental period, exemplified by "On Wireless Waves", the shock of the German invasion and the Czech national tragedy stirred him to his most famous and most popular work, for example *Clothed in Light*, 1940.

Army toll rises in fighting with Kurds

Ankara - The toll among Turkish army troops killed this month by Kurdish separatists reached 12 with the death yesterday of an army captain in an ambush in which another soldier was injured (Rasit Gurdik writes).

The guerrillas, believed to be members of the illegal Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), have been sought by troops since their surprise attack on two towns in the area on August 13.

Swiss jail prostitute for castrating diplomat

Geneva (AP) - A Swiss jury has sentenced a 20-year-old woman drug addict and prostitute to eight and a half years' imprisonment for the murder by castration of a Saudi diplomat.

The jury ruled that Marie-Rose Nastroianni was guilty of intentional homicide in the death of Abdel Aziz Almosalam, aged 51, a cultural attaché at the Saudi mission to the United Nations, on the night of March 10, 1983.

She told the jury how she and a female companion met Mr Almosalam at a Geneva nightclub and returned with him to his studio apartment. After having sexual intercourse with him, Miss Nastroianni said she hit him on the head with a bottle, stabbed him with scissors, and then castrated him.

Archbishop accused in Pretoria

Durban (AP) - The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Durban, Most Rev Dennis Hurley, will have to appear in court to answer charges that he falsely accused a police unit of committing atrocities against civilians in Namibia.

A spokesman for the archbishop confirmed that he had received a summons to appear in Pretoria on October 31 concerning statements he made to a news conference in February 1983.

The archbishop, a veteran campaigner against apartheid, said at the time that he would welcome a court case on the issue.

Globetrotters win damages

Los Angeles (AFP) - Three members of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team have agreed to settlement of a civil rights action in which they sued police for stopping them at gunpoint simply because they were black. The amount was not disclosed.

Louis Dunbar, 30, Jimmy Blacklock, 35, and Ovie Dolsen, 27, were forced to get out of a taxi by police searching for robbers, then searched and handcuffed as dozens of spectators watched.

Girl recovering

Sarah Smith, aged 11, from the Derbyshire village of Littleover, was making a strong recovery in New York after 11 hours of laser surgery to remove a spinal tumour which threatened her life. Well-wishers raised £28,000 in two months in the village to pay her expenses.

Gulf toll rises

Hongkong (Reuters) - The death toll from Monday's Iraqi air attack on the Hongkong owned tanker World Knight in the Gulf has risen to nine with the deaths of two Hongkong seamen in a Tehran hospital, the ship's owners said here.

Four to be shot

Moscow (Reuters) - Four men accused of murdering at least 300 Ukrainian villagers during the Second World War have been sentenced to death by shooting. They were members of a group which collaborated with Nazi occupying forces.

Elton John ill

Charlotte, North Carolina (AP) - The pop singer, Elton John, suffering from what doctors said was nausea, swollen glands and fever, cancelled his Wednesday night concert here. He was taken ill in Knoxville, Tennessee.

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HALIFAX THE WORLD'S No1

Mitterrand tells Basques he was right to expel terror suspects

From Diana Geddes, Paris.

On the eve of his politically sensitive visit today to Bayonne, in the heart of the troubled French Basque country, President Mitterrand has sought to justify his Government's historic decision last month to extradite to Spain three suspected Spanish Basque terrorists.

It was the first time that the Socialist Government had agreed to the extradition of anyone living in France who claimed the status of a political refugee, and it marked a complete break with former Socialist policy on the right of political asylum in France.

Only three years ago, M. Gaston Defferre, then Minister of the Interior, went so far as to liken the struggle of ETA, the Spanish Basque separatist movement, to the French Resistance during the Second World War. Many Socialists are strongly opposed to the Government's decision to extradite the three refugees.

The Government's change of heart caused violent protests among Basque nationalists on both sides of the border, and ETA immediately announced that it could step up its terrorist campaign against French interests in Spain.

Yesterday, Iparretarrak, ETA's French equivalent north of the border, claimed responsibility for blowing up a radar beacon at Biarritz airport, a stone's throw from where President Mitterrand is due to arrive today. A fortnight ago, another beacon at the same airport was damaged by an incendiary device.

Last week, Spain asked for the extradition of another Spanish Basque refugee, Tomás Linaza Echevarria, who was arrested in Biarritz on September 29 on charges of carrying illegal weapons and breaking a French court order assigning him to a residence in the Dordogne. He is wanted by Spanish police in connexion with seven murders.

In an interview yesterday with the Bordeaux-based newspaper *Sud-Ouest*, President Mitterrand said that the three extradited Spanish Basques could not claim the right to political asylum while continuing to use France as a military base from which to launch crimes of violence.

● **MADRID:** — Spain has deployed 1,000 extra police in its Basque region to meet possible separatist protests during M. Mitterrand's presence near the border.



Brief encounter: Guerrillas of the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) organization pose for television cameramen during a rare meeting in the Peruvian Andes, where they are fighting government forces.

Girl in black helped kidnapped diplomat

From Robert Fick, Beirut

Señor Pedro Manuel de Aristegui, the Spanish ambassador to Lebanon, is a worldly sort of man.

But nothing quite prepared him for his experiences in Beirut last Wednesday, when he found himself in the hands of two armed kidnappers while a girl in a black chador sent him secret messages of encouragement in a copy of an Albert Camus novel.

He even knew who his kidnappers were. The two

teenagers had three times met the Ambassador to demand the release of a Lebanese imprisoned in Madrid for shooting a Libyan. Señor de Aristegui knew he was likely to be kidnapped, and when one of the boys stopped his car outside the embassy he pulled out his personal gun but could not open fire.

"I realized I had no courage to shoot the boy I knew," he said yesterday. "What if he killed me? It is better to be

killed than to kill."

In return for this extraordinary altruism, Señor Aristegui was bundled into a car, blindfolded with a towel and taken to a four-story apartment in the Shia Muslim Bourj el-Barajneh suburb of west Beirut. There his two teenage kidnappers became more friendly.

Then the girl appeared. "She was very beautiful, in a chador," the Ambassador said. "It was black all the way down."

She had a beautiful body, a beautiful face — like a virgin, a black angel. And she said to me: "I'm your friend. Don't be afraid."

It was the girl — a cousin of the imprisoned man — who handed Albert Camus' book *The Outsider* to Señor de Aristegui, and it was shortly after this that six members of the Shia Muslim Ainal militia arrived at the house, detained the two boys and freed the Ambassador.

UN speeds up Lebanon force plans

From Zoriana Pysarski, New York

In an attempt to give momentum to the apparently stalemated efforts to arrange for Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary-General, has ordered plans to be prepared for the deployment of UN peace-keeping forces to replace Israeli units.

The speed with which the United Nations is moving reflects the belief that the longer Israeli forces continue to occupy southern Lebanon, following their expressed eagerness to withdraw, the less likely they are to leave.

The Secretary-General in his report to the Security Council on the UN peacekeeping forces in southern Lebanon describes the atmosphere for a withdrawal as relatively favourable.

His assessment is based on a recent visit to the area by Mr Brian Urquhart, the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs. The report follows American conclusions that international arrangements for an Israeli withdrawal are a long way from fruition, given the wide gap between the positions held by Israel on the one side and Lebanon and Syria on the other.

Jordan and Egypt agree Palestinian strategy

Cairo (Reuters) — President Mubarak of Egypt returned from a three-day state visit to Jordan yesterday and said that he and King Hussein had agreed on a joint strategy to solve the Palestinian problem.

However he said that the restoration of relations between Cairo and Amman on September 25 did not necessarily mean that Jordan would join the American-backed Camp David peace process, which calls for negotiations with Israel on Palestinian self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"We are not asking anyone to recognize Camp David. This issue belongs to us," he said.

The 1978 Camp David accords led Egypt the following year to become the first Arab state to sign a peace treaty with Israel. Most Arab states ostracized Egypt as a result, and Jordan has been attacked bitterly by Syria and Libya for reestablishing ties last month.

On the issue of whether his talks in Jordan might result in a revival of President Reagan's peace plan of 1982, he said: "Egypt has expressed its reservations towards it. Peace is our strategic goal. We will explore all possibilities to solve the Palestinian problem."

The Reagan plan calls for Palestinian self-rule on Israeli-held Arab land in association with Jordan.

President Mubarak dismissed reports that Egypt and Jordan had discussed a union.

"We are not concerned about a union. We are working for coordination between the two countries for the sake of the Arab cause," he said.

President Mubarak also said that he could see no obstacle to a visit by him to Iraq, with which Egypt had permanent contacts.

Diplomats in Amman speculated that Iraq, with which both Egypt and Jordan have close ties, might be the next Arab country to restore diplomatic links with Cairo.

Mr Esmat Abdul Maguid, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, who accompanied President Mubarak to Amman, said that Jordan had approved the nomination of Mr Ihab Wahba as the first Egyptian ambassador to Jordan since the 1979 break in relations.

Mr Osama Baz, President Mubarak's foreign affairs adviser, said that the two sides had discussed ways of boosting bilateral cooperation.

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Beyond the butter mountain

Hailsham sees key role for Europe

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

It is up to Europe to take the lead in securing world peace, Lord Hailsham said in Luxembourg last night. The Lord Chancellor was delivering the annual Churchill Memorial Lecture, in which senior Government ministers traditionally spell out policy on the EEC.

"Europe retains all her immense political wisdom," he said. "It is time we rose to the magnitude of our responsibilities. Milk lakes, butter mountains, surpluses of wine and oil, imbalances of currencies and contributions are important matters which must be solved between friends and partners in a just and amicable fashion."

"But there are more important items on the agenda, and it is time we considered these with at least as much diligence as we devote to other things."

Lord Hailsham said that the free world's ideals could not be achieved by angry denunciations, but by frank exchanges in private.

For its part Europe needed to be independent but not isolationist. It had to sort out its internal affairs efficiently, curb agricultural excesses, change the emphasis to industry and technology and improve the environment.

He emphasized the need for closer cooperation in defence and in the design and manufacture of defence equipment, as well as combating terrorism and world hunger.

Good housekeeping, in his view, was vital, as ideals are unachievable without good housekeeping. But good housekeeping is no substitute for ideals. One cannot reach the stratosphere by pulling remorselessly at one's own bootstraps.

Valletta casts doubt on strikers' claims

The general strike called for all employees in Malta's private and public sectors last Wednesday was a failure, according to the government and the General Workers Union (Our Valletta Correspondent writes). Ministers told Parliament that business in the various state departments had gone on as normal with the usual services being provided to the public. This contrasted with the figure of 27,000 out on strike as given by the Confederation of Trade Unions (CMTU) which ordered it. The CMTU accused the General Workers Union of breaching trade union ethics in condemning the strike.

EEC responds to Oxfam call to fight hunger

Oxfam this week launched a campaign to draw attention to the hunger crisis in the world. Yesterday, the European Parliament responded by passing three resolutions calling in essence for the EEC to send more of its surpluses to feed the hungry (Ian Murray writes from Strasbourg). Mr Christopher Jackson, the Conservative spokesman on relations with developing countries, pointed out that the EEC already gives away £750,000 worth of food as aid every day, but that only a tenth of that went to the starving. What was needed was a boost in the scale and effectiveness of aid.

Disabled carried away in day up Acropolis

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Thousands of foreign tourists, enjoyed the view of the Parthenon and an exceptionally pollution-free Athens from the top of the Acropolis in bright sunshine yesterday, but for 16 of them it was "the treat of a lifetime".

They were disabled Britons, most confined to wheelchairs, who had always thought the steep 300-ft climb of the rugged rock made on Acropolis visit one of the inaccessible things in life. Thanks to "Pitab", they made it.

It stands for Physically Handicapped and Able Bodied.

the name of a British organization that tries to integrate the two groups by promoting chances for them to live, work, and play together on equal terms. "Opportunity not pity" is its slogan.

Forty-seven members of this organization, which has 20,000 members in Britain alone, came to Greece this week and the able bodied among them, with aid from Greek volunteers, helped carry the physically handicapped all the way up the slippery steps and ramps of the Acropolis yesterday.

Guatemala heads for poll but Army determined to keep hold on power

From Christopher Thomas, Guatemala City

General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemala's chief of state, works in a big luxurious office with expensive carpets and leather armchairs inside the green-coloured National Palace in the middle of town. He wears khaki and a large gun.

He wants to retire and if he sticks to his promise to call presidential elections next year he will get his chance. "I am tired", he said. He is 54 and a man of succinct expressions.

Guatemala is not a banana republic. It has a sophisticated economy, the biggest in Central America, with an incipient industrial base and significant reserves of oil and nickel. But nearly everybody lives in poverty.

Señor Ramón Zelada Carrillo has a ballroom of an office down the corridor from General Mejia. He is the palace spokesman, a dour and impatient man who consults his watch with pointed frequency. He said Guatemala does not need American rifles. "We produce small tanks. What we need is spares for our helicopters. All six are grounded."

In fact, they are patently not. An American-made Huey buzzes frequently across the city.

When he is not attacking Amnesty International, Señor Zelada Carrillo is defending Guatemala's right to fight the

"aggression of the guerrilla and the common delinquent".

He thinks that the Reagan Administration wants to resume military aid to Guatemala, suspended by President Carter because of human rights violations. He denies strenuously that helicopter spares had arrived from the United States.

In fact, they have. Guatemala paid \$2m (£1.6m) cash for parts and other "non-lethal" equipment that have long since arrived. President Reagan authorized cash-only sales of UH-1H helicopter spares and A37B aircraft parts and communications equipment totalling \$6.4m, but Guatemala is too short of ready money to take up the entire allocation at once.

Guatemala also owns 23 civilian helicopters, bought between 1980 and 1982 from the Bell helicopter company in Fort Worth, Texas, with authorization from the White House.

The British Government is believed to have expressed concern to the United States that sales of military equipment to Guatemala might result in further intimidation of neighbouring Belize, the former British colony.

It is almost a cliché to describe Guatemala as the most brutal, repressive regime in

Central America. Taxi drivers tell you things have improved dramatically in recent months. The city is packed at night and it is rare to see a soldier.

There is little doubt that the military have killed thousands of Indians in its anti-guerrilla drive, though there are indications the assault has lessened in recent months. The pattern of selective political murder is blurred; all that is certain that with every faltering step towards elections the number of deaths and disappearances increases.

On July 1 Guatemala elected a constituent assembly, whose 88 members immediately voted themselves the extraordinary salary of 2,700 quetzales a month (more than £2,000). Cynics have suggested they might be in no hurry to get the job done.

But expectations have been raised for presidential and congressional elections in time for installing a government in the summer. Señor Zelada Carrillo said something about "perhaps August or September".

Nobody is under any illusion about the nature of the government, if elections take place. The Army will not leave the palace - it will merely share it. The concept of the disposable president is strong in Guatemala.



Praise for President: Mr George Shultz toasts Señor Duarte on his proposed meeting with rebel leaders.

Duarte asks Church to mediate with rebels

By Our Foreign Staff

President Duarte of El Salvador said that he had asked Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas of San Salvador to act as an intermediary to settle the details of next week's meeting with rebel leaders in El Salvador. His statement appeared to be a rejection of a rebel request for President Betancur of Colombia serve as an intermediary.

The Secretary General of President Duarte's Christian Democrat Party, Señor José Morales Ehrlich, said later

that the Government felt El Salvador's Roman Catholic church was the most valid, most credible mediator in the talks with the leaders of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) and its political wing the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR).

Señor Morales Ehrlich, who has two sons with the FMLN guerrillas, said in an unguarded moment that President Duarte's imaginative new peace initiative symbolized a recovery of sovereignty.

However head of the rebel political opposition, Señor Guillermo Manuel Ungo, said that the rebels had had no contacts with Salvadorean officials. He had not been told of President Duarte's position, and there was a need for private communication with the government. Making public statements did not seem to be the best way to go forward.

President Duarte made his statements after a luncheon during which the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, who was in San Salvador to meet the President, compli-

mented him on his decision to meet rebel leaders.

Señor Duarte said he would personally guarantee the security of the leaders who choose to meet him on Monday in La Palma.

He said he had ordered the commander of government troops in the area to keep soldiers in their barracks while the meeting with the rebels took place.

"I will go without any protection", Señor Duarte said. "Whether the guerrillas have arms or not, I will go to La Palma."

Consulate men seek to meet UK envoy

From Michael Hornsby

Johannesburg

The three South African political dissidents still sheltering from the security police in the British Consulate in Durban have asked for an urgent meeting between their representatives and Mr Patrick Moberly, the new British Ambassador here.

In a message to the British Embassy in Pretoria, which has been forwarded to London for instructions, the three say the object of the meeting would be to hand over a written response to Britain's warning last Monday that they could not stay in the consulate for ever and that no useful purpose would be served by their remaining any longer.

The British warning came after a Natal Supreme Court ruling the same day that Pretoria had acted lawfully in ordering the detention without trial of the three fugitives.

The three men, Mr Archie Gumede, a national president of the United Democratic Front (UDF), a multi-racial alliance of anti-apartheid groups, Mr Billy Nair and Mr Paul David, both senior members of the Natal Indian Congress, affiliate of the Front, asked for time to consider their reply.

They now say they want Mr Moberly to meet a delegation led by Mr Zac Yacoub, the blind attorney who is their chief spokesman outside the consulate, and containing other of their representatives.

Papal visit boosts Spanish pride

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

The Pope has delighted Spaniards by praising their historically controversial role in the discovery and evangelization of the Americas.

He gave a filip to national pride during a display of Hispanic fervour when he stopped in Saragossa to venerate the Virgin of the Pillar, patroness of Spain, before flying to Santo Domingo yesterday.

There he inaugurates the Roman Catholic Church's celebrations, due to go on for several years, marking the five-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the New World.

Addressing a crowd of several hundred thousand on Wednesday night, the Pope was also outspoken on all three topics which are causing friction with Spain's Socialist Government.

He condemned divorce and abortion and demanded respect for the right of parents to send

their children to church-run schools subsidized by the state. Señor Felipe González, the Prime Minister, had a 20-minute tête-à-tête with the Pope yesterday at the airport before his departure.

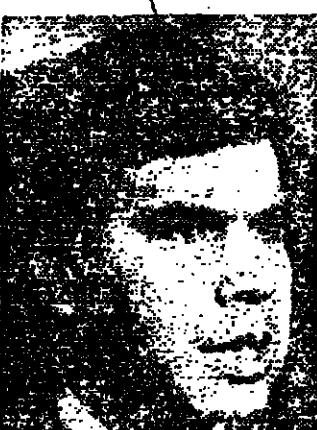
The Prime Minister had already flown to Saragossa on Wednesday to welcome the Pope. His journey underlined a desire to win favour with Roman Catholic voters. The discussions were described as "very cordial".

Increasing numbers are using the divorce law passed in 1981 by the former Centre Democrat Government. However, a law permitting limited abortion on doctors' recommendations; and another aimed at giving priority to improving state run schools, both passed by Socialist majorities in Parliament, have still not been implemented.

Those laws have been challenged by the right-wing Opposition before Spain's constitutional court. It is widely believed that the court has in both cases delayed its verdict until after the Papal visit.

Though bound for Latin America, where judgments on the Spanish conquest are different, the Pope hailed uncritically the "gigantic enterprise" of Spaniards' colonization and introduction of Christianity to the New World. He was greeted by roars of applause from the crowd.

In an apparent reference to Latin America's current debate over "liberation theology" the Pope said that the Virgin must increasingly be the Church's theological guide.



Señor González: Seeking Church's favour.

Zimbabwe squatters test Bill of Rights

From Jan Raath, Harare

A long drawn-out struggle by a white Zimbabwean farmer to get the Government to evict squatters from his farm has finally reached the Supreme Court as a test of the country's Bill of Rights.

Mr Robert Rensford, aged 62, is to ask the country's highest court to order the arrest of Mr Wridzayi Nguruve, the commissioner of police, for failing to obey court orders to help with the eviction of 19 squatter families from Mr Rensford's farm when regulations enforced by the state of emergency were gazetted in August. They prohibited the taking of legal action against squatters who had been settled illegally for more than five years. The new regulations applied to Mr Rensford's squatters.

In the High Court yesterday, however, Mr Adrian de Bourbon, representing Mr Rensford, argued that the regulations were ultra vires. He said they conflicted with sections of the Bill of Rights that guaranteed the protection of the law, and protection against the deprivation of property.

Mr de Bourbon asked for the

case to be referred to the Supreme Court, and Mr Justice Wilson Sandura granted the request.

The Government, aware of the disparity of land ownership between the impoverished peasant farming section and well-off commercial farmers, has repeatedly said that the white farming community was on land taken from the native population by settlers of English stock.

The Government's position was clearly stated in June by Mr Moven Mahachi, the Minister of Lands, who referred to the Rensford case with the words: "What may be legally defensible may not be morally right".

Birds seized

Melbourne (AFP) - Customs officers and quarantine officials seized large numbers of live pigeons which were believed to have been smuggled into Australia. The Health Minister, Mr Neal Blewett, said he was alarmed at reports that birds had been illegally imported from Britain and Europe.

Opposition leaders freed by order of Pinochet

From Florencia Varas, Santiago

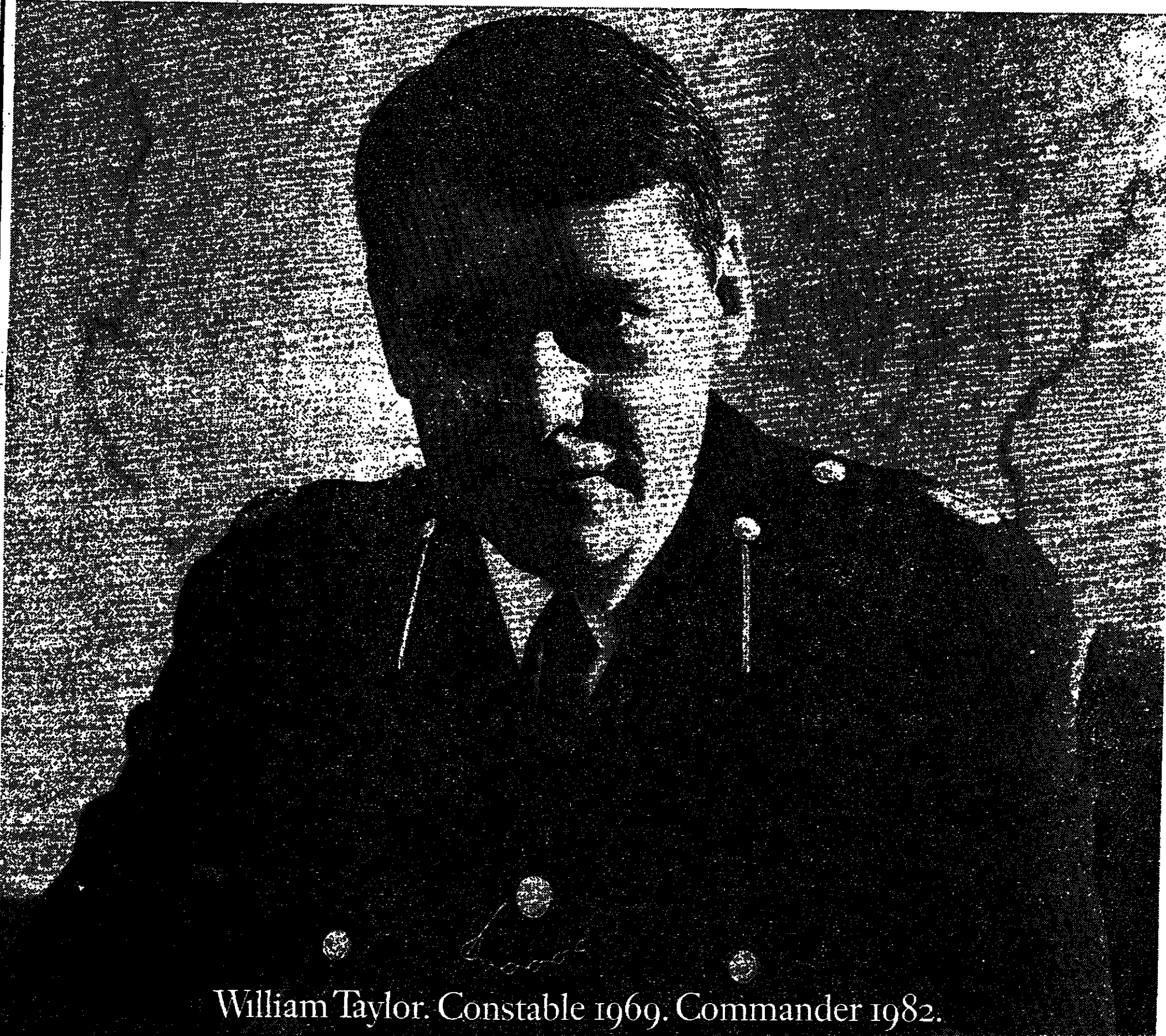
Seven Chilean opposition leaders were released from jail after President Pinochet annulled legal proceedings opened against them by the Government. They had been in police custody for 24 hours.

Señor Gabriel Valdés, the Christian Democrat Party president, said on his release on Wednesday: "The decision demonstrates the confusion and lack of clarity within the Government... I do not

consider this an act of good faith but rather the acknowledgement of error."

Mr Valdés insisted that the opposition would continue to hold protests in its attempt to unite all Chileans.

The leaders were jailed on Tuesday after a local court supported the Government's contention that they had caused deaths and violence during nationwide protests on September 4 and 5.



William Taylor. Constable 1969. Commander 1982.

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Missiles dominate Nato meeting

The first meeting of the Nato planning group to be presided over by Lord Carrington in his comparatively new capacity as the organization's Secretary-General, is due to close at Stresa today (Peter Nicholas writes).

The two days of meetings were private and defence ministers were present from all the countries in the alliance, with the exception of France and Iceland. Their forces are not integrated into the Nato command. The Spanish delegation had observer status.

The principal subject of discussion was expected to be the relative strengths of missiles between Nato and the Eastern block, and in particular developments in European defence since the installation began a year ago of cruise missiles in Italy, Germany and Britain. It was also suggested that there might be discussion of better security measures to limit demonstrations around existing bases.

Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary, was expected to report to his colleagues on the exchange between President Reagan and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

● **STRESA:** The United States and West Germany have reached agreement on a substantial increase in Nato spending on ground facilities over the next six years, a West German official said yesterday (Reuters reports).

World's armed forces face cash constraints

By Henry Stanhope
Diplomatic Correspondent

The modernization of armed forces throughout the world is slowing down because of cash shortages, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

Economic constraints predicted a year ago are "beginning to bite" it says in *The Military Balance 1984-5*, published today.

New weapons are still replacing old ones, but only very slowly, and with most defence budgets more or less at a standstill, the overall numbers have stopped going up.

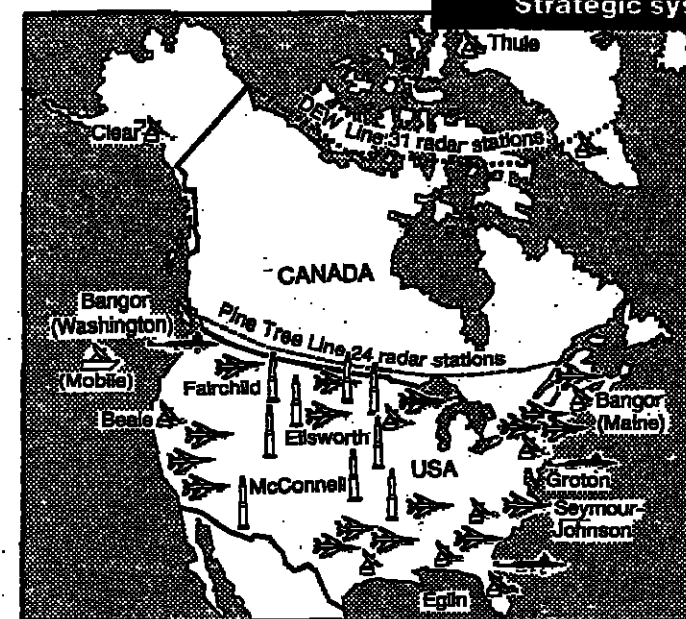
The rising costs of equipment have led to a decrease in arms sales, particularly in the Third World, according to the institute, which adds that the long-term trend is now downwards. There has not even been any big expansion in the superpowers' stockpiles of nuclear weapons - despite their failure to reach any agreements on arms control.

However further expansion is expected in the late 1980s while the trend towards more accurate, mobile, concealed missiles will make it very difficult to negotiate verifiable arms treaties in future.

The Soviet Union has also continued to replace its older SS-4 intermediate-range missiles - aimed at Western Europe - with the mobile, highly accurate, three-warhead SS-20.

A total of 378 SS-20s are now thought to be deployed, although there are unconfirmed reports of work on the sites for 27 more.

Nato has continued to introduce new British, West German and American tanks, infantry



The United States now has 1,037 ICBMs (1,000 Minutemen, only 37 Titans), and no IRBMs. The Russians have 1,398 ICBMs and 578 IRBMs.

fighting vehicles artillery and aircraft - like Tornado.

But the institute expresses concern over Nato's continuing failure to adopt a standard Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system for its air forces, leaving air crew exposed to the risk of being shot down by their own side.

Nor do the "flattening out" of defence budgets hold out much hope for those, including General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (Saceur), who would like to lessen allied dependence on nuclear weapons by heavy investment in so-called Emergent Technology (ET) - the next

generation of ultra-sophisticated conventional weapons.

The Military Balance also details recent changes in Soviet military formations, which have now been grouped into three theatres: Western, Southern and Far Eastern with a central strategic reserve. The Western is the strongest and best equipped.

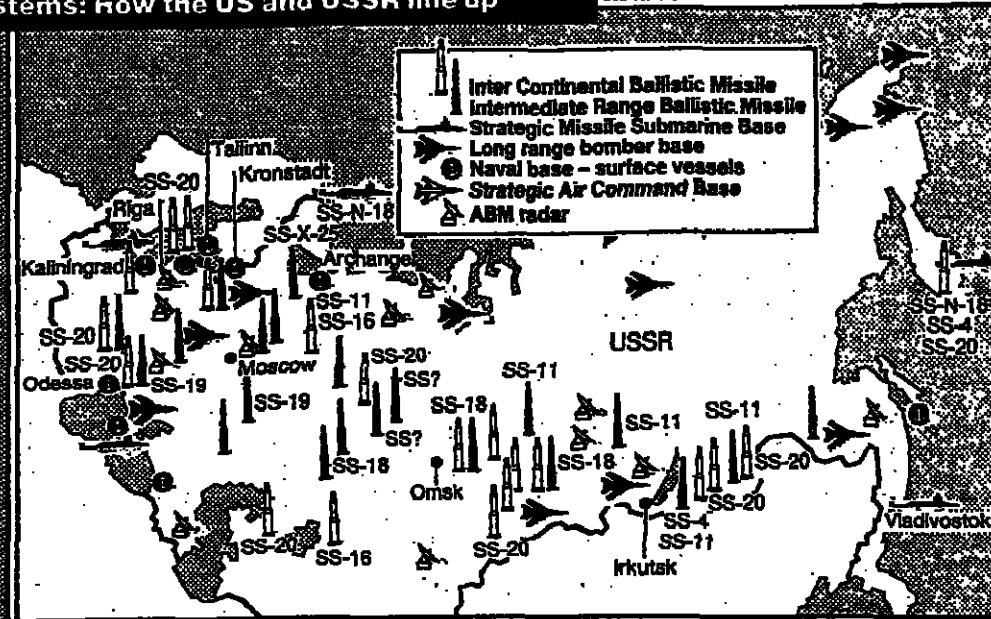
In wartime Nato armies in Central Europe, facing four fronts, two in East Germany, one in Poland and one in Czechoslovakia.

(*The Military Balance 1984-5* IISS, 23 Tavistock St, London WC2E 7NQ Price £8.75)

Leading article, page 13

Strategic systems: How the US and USSR line up

Source: IISS



Russia said to violate pacts

Washington (Reuters) - President Reagan has released a report accusing the Soviet Union of deliberate arms control violations, including the probable testing of two new strategic nuclear missiles instead of the one allowed under the unratified Salt 2 treaty.

In a letter attached to the report to Congress, Mr Reagan said compliance with arms control agreements was "fundamental to the arms control process".

The report, compiled by an

advisory committee of private citizens appointed by the President, studied Soviet compliance with arms control pacts over the past 25 years and concluded that Moscow had demonstrated "a pattern of pursuing military advantage through selective disregard".

The eight-member committee found "recurring instances of Soviet conduct involving deliberate deception, misdirection and falsification of data during negotiations".

The Reagan Administration

in January sent to Congress its own report on probable and possible Soviet violations of arms control agreements, but had been under pressure from conservatives to release the committee's year-long study.

It was expected to be made public before President Reagan's meeting on September 28 with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. The White House declined to say it had been delayed, but noted that no specific date for its release had been set.

Bush fire clue to Aborigines' origins

From Tony Duboulin
Melbourne

Aborigines may have come to Australia 130,000 years ago, 90,000 years earlier than previously thought, a study by an Australian researcher suggests.

Dr Gurdip Singh, a senior fellow in the department of biogeography and geomorphology at the Australian National University, has been studying ancient sediments at Lake George near Canberra for the past 10 years.

His work has uncovered evidence of changes involving climate, vegetation and bushfires which point to the possibility that the ancestors of today's Aborigines arrived much earlier than 40,000 years ago, the period generally accepted by archaeologists.

Dr Singh said that the presence of Aboriginal tribes in the Lake George area seemed the only way to explain the sudden increase in destructive bushfires beginning 130,000 years ago and recurring at frequent intervals down to the present day. He identified these bushfires from layers of carbon in the more recent lake George sediments.

Dr Singh said that associated with the onset of these fires he found a sudden, dramatic change in the vegetation. For the first time in a 750,000-year period covered by his research, fire-sensitive forests began to be displaced by the fire-tolerant eucalyptus forests.

Gandhi invokes emergency law

Indian coalminers fail to carry out strike threat

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The 700,000 workers in India's coal mining industry failed to carry out their threat of a strike yesterday after Mrs Gandhi's Government banned a walkout under a draconian measure known as the Essential Services Maintenance Act of 1981.

This is the second time this year that Mrs Gandhi has banned a coal strike. In July a similar stoppage was threatened and a similar measure taken.

However, in the summer several employees stayed away from work in two coalfields in Bihar and West Bengal, and the present dispute is related to that illegal stoppage.

"The management is trying to instil some discipline into the industry", the Ministry of Energy said. "The trouble has arisen because by and large this has been a rather less disciplined industry."

The absent workers lost eight days' pay, and this loss and a claim for an increased bonus payment arising from increased coal prices lie behind the present dispute.

Yesterday's strike was banned, according to officials, because coal is a core infrastructure industry, feeding other essential industries such as

steel, cement and power. Unofficially, however, it is believed that the strike was banned because an increase in pay would mean still higher coal prices, which would have an immediate effect on a wide range of other consumer prices.

This is an election year, and an avoidable increase in consumer prices is the last thing the Government wants.

The Essential Services Maintenance Act grew from similar measures enforced during Mrs Gandhi's emergency rule in 1975. When the Act was passed after Mrs Gandhi returned to power it caused much resentment, particularly among trade unionists.

At the time the Government said: "Effective measures have had to be taken to check inflation and keep the wheels of production turning. Services which intimately affect the life of the common man have also to be maintained without any hindrance."

Strikes banned under the Act have included those in communication services in Assam during the general strike and several threatened stoppages in the hotel, power-supply and sanitation industries.

Joint check on Chad withdrawal

Ndjamena (AFP) - The Chad Government has agreed to joint French-Libyan commissions monitoring the withdrawal of the forces of the two countries from southern and northern Chad respectively; an official communiqué said here yesterday.

The decision was taken at a special meeting of the Cabinet and the executive Bureau of the ruling National Union for Independence and Revolution.

The commissions will apparently replace observers from Senegal and Benin who were originally proposed after the agreement in mid-September by Paris and Tripoli to withdraw their forces, which have been backing President Hissène Habré and his ousted predecessor, Mr Goukouni Oueddei, respectively.

The Habré Government rejected Benin for being "a satellite of Libya", and the Senegalese observers were kept waiting in neighbouring Niger until the situation was clarified.

The use of joint commissions was first suggested by France when President Habré visited Paris a week ago, and in a message to President Mitterrand the Chad leader said the idea had been accepted "after reflection on the various alternatives".

● **NAIROBI:** up to 30,000 Chadian refugees have arrived in western Sudan after fleeing drought and insecurity, United Nations officials said here yesterday (Reuters reports).

Karpov agrees to draw

Moscow (Reuters) - Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion and his challenger, Gary Kasparov, agreed yesterday to draw their eleventh game, adjourning on the forty-first move on Wednesday without resuming play. The next game will begin today.

The draw was regarded by experts here as providing a much-needed breathing space for Kasparov, who has yet to win a game. Karpov has already won four of the six clear victories needed to retain his title.

After an unexpectedly restrained opening, Karpov, playing white, built up a strong position and seemed headed for his fifth win until a careless twenty-ninth move.

When the game was adjourned, Kasparov had reached a rook and pawn endgame and looked set to achieve a draw, when play was resumed.

Eleventh game

| White Karpov | | Black Kasparov | |
|--------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| 10...Kf3 | 11-Kf3 | 2-Pg4 | 3-Kg2 |
| 11-Kf3 | 12-Kf3 | 4-Pg4 | 5-Kg2 |
| 12-Kf3 | 13-Kf3 | 6-Pg4 | 7-Kg2 |
| 13-Kf3 | 14-Kf3 | 8-Pg4 | 9-Kg2 |
| 14-Kf3 | 15-Kf3 | 10-Pg4 | 11-Kg2 |
| 15-Kf3 | 16-Kf3 | 12-Pg4 | 13-Kg2 |
| 16-Kf3 | 17-Kf3 | 14-Pg4 | 15-Kg2 |
| 17-Kf3 | 18-Kf3 | 16-Pg4 | 17-Kg2 |
| 18-Kf3 | 19-Kf3 | 18-Pg4 | 19-Kg2 |
| 19-Kf3 | 20-Kf3 | 20-Pg4 | 21-Kg2 |
| 20-Kf3 | 21-Kf3 | 22-Pg4 | 23-Kg2 |
| 21-Kf3 | 22-Kf3 | 24-Pg4 | 25-Kg2 |
| 22-Kf3 | 23-Kf3 | 26-Pg4 | 27-Kg2 |
| 23-Kf3 | 24-Kf3 | 28-Pg4 | 29-Kg2 |
| 24-Kf3 | 25-Kf3 | 30-Pg4 | 31-Kg2 |
| 25-Kf3 | 26-Kf3 | 32-Pg4 | 33-Kg2 |
| 26-Kf3 | 27-Kf3 | 34-Pg4 | 35-Kg2 |
| 27-Kf3 | 28-Kf3 | 36-Pg4 | 37-Kg2 |
| 28-Kf3 | 29-Kf3 | 38-Pg4 | 39-Kg2 |
| 29-Kf3 | 30-Kf3 | 40-Pg4 | 41-Kg2 |

Briton ends Dutch jail hunger strike

The Hague (AFP) - A Briton, who says he infiltrated pacifist ranks for the American and Dutch intelligence services, has ended a three-week hunger strike in a jail here where he awaits extradition to Belgium in connection with an arms theft.

Johnathan Gardiner, alias John Wood, is wanted in Belgium to answer charges of complicity in a theft of 193

shells from Florennes military base.

Mr Gardiner joined Dutch pacifists last year near Wobesche military base where they were protesting at plans to deploy American nuclear missiles.

He was unmasked as a government spy in April and said that he was working for the BVD, the Dutch intelligence service.

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THE ARTS

Concerts

Urgent freshness

Vienna SO/
Harnoncourt
Festival Hall

A growing number of musicians, with the help of period-style instruments, are helping to overturn our complacent notions of what late Classical music ought to sound like.

Unlike most of them, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, who replaced the indisposed Wolfgang Sawallisch in this Royal Philharmonic Society concert given by the Vienna Symphony Orchestra, does not require his players to lay down their familiar tools.

Yet the results here were quite stunning, bringing new urgency and freshness to what used to be thought familiar music. It was sharp contrast indeed to the other Viennese orchestra's Beethoven, and I know which I prefer.

The secret of Harnoncourt's success is really quite simple. He takes absolutely nothing for granted. Every minute detail, whether of dynamic or articulation, is given careful attention, but at the same time he propels the music along with a spontaneity and a rhythmic vivacity that coming from less meticulous conductors might be taken for shallow extroversion. It also doubtless helps that he seems able to infect his players with the same sort of spirit.

He knows, too, that early nineteenth-century music is founded upon the premise of

contrast. Schubert's Overture to *Rosamunde*, D644, ranges from the grave and imposing to the infectiously gay. Here attention for once was drawn to Schubert's orchestral colours, and there was no hint of self-indulgence even in the slow music; everything said exactly what it was intended to say, no more and no less.

The same attitude pervaded Beethoven's Second Symphony, still, I think, rather an underrated work. Harnoncourt built the first movement into a breathing drama, with some marvellously pointed playing from the woodwind in particular. The Larghetto had an easy, unobtrusive impetus, though again Harnoncourt's detailing was meticulous, while the extremes of dynamic contrast made the finale's cut and thrust quite scintillating.

It was also good to hear Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau in such fine voice in four Mozart concert arias. Although he may have lost a shade of that famous resonance of former years, his technique is undiminished and the sound he makes is still an immensely pleasing one. He showed too that his ability to characterize is as deft as ever. To him the transformation from the tragedy of *Metre il lacio* to the buffo comedy of *Un bacio di mano* presented no problems, while the orchestra's response was a perfect match for him.

Stephen Pettitt

EBF/Farncombe

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Theodore may not be Handel's most popular oratorio, but it is one of his greatest. It lacks the rip-roaring choruses and showy arias of some of his racier works, but in their place is the most astounding, sustained richness of emotion and consistency of mood. The tone is (Anthony Hicks's programme note chose exactly the right word) elegiac, and the story of two early Christian martyrs led to death united in love, though essentially undramatic, is explored with real sensitivity.

The highlights of the score must be the piercing minor duet for Theodore and Didimus and the sectional chorus that follows. But there is much else that should seduce and beguile the ear, and ideally the work should stretch out through a long evening so that every note can be heard. This English Bach Festival concert performance did not attempt that, and instead cut the work very heavily.

It was given by the kind of reduced forces now beloved of

this festival and others: four to a part in the chorus and a handful of strings - not enough to do justice to Handel's writing, especially when the choir was as unevenly balanced as here, with four very bright sopranos singing not quite the same note, weak tenors, and an uninspiringly imprecise sound from the orchestra.

Still, fortunately there were compensations in the solo work. Michael Chance's Didimus combined sensitivity and eloquence, with long, sustained phrases and clean lines. Lynda Russell's Theodore was more conventionally expressive, but no less affecting, while Catherine Denley's Irene was nicely moulded. John Rath as Valens, the man who leads the pair to their death, blasted everyone on stage in one blustery but well focused aria, and was so taken back at his own power that he forgot to start the recitative that followed. Charles Farncombe missed some of the score's special character, but set sensible speeds and gave a memorably dry articulation to the culminating chorus "How strange their ends".

Nicholas Kenyon

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Cinema

Orwell's surrealism as historical record

1984 (15)

Odeon Haymarket

Can This Be Love?

National Film Theatre

Andrei Rublev (15)

ICA Cinema

The Highest Honour (15)

Classics Chelsea, Tottenham Court Road

The Philadelphia Experiment (PG)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue

The Woman in Red (15)

Leicester Square Theatre

Michael Radford's film of 1984 is a model of loyal adaptation - respectful, intelligent, irreproachably conscientious in attempting to realize Orwell's imaginary world. The point of this kind of adaptation is that it should stimulate a fresh view of the original; and this one primarily demands speculation as to why Orwell called his novel "1984" and not "1949". It appears today less a prediction of a hypothetical future than the record of a nasty piece of actual history.

Deducing from what had already happened in Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Soviet Union, Orwell described with uncanny accuracy what was about to happen, in the year or two after his own death, in Eastern Europe. Gotwald in Czechoslovakia and Rakosi in Hungary were to realize Orwell's fantasy of Big Brother. The show trials, the exemplary heroes and villains, Cold War hatreds, material deprivation, inspirational songs, "Newspeak", the policing of thought and the rewriting of history were just around the corner in 1949.

Orwell himself warned against reading the story as a futuristic fantasy. It was, he said, both a parody and a warning: "Don't let this happen again". The moral of course remains, because all this still can happen, anywhere where human beings battle for power.

The film intelligently acknowledges this period quality in the original, rather than projecting the story into some science-fiction future (which was the error of an earlier version directed by Michael Anderson and vehemently

condemned by Orwell's widow). The viewpoint is determinedly that of Britain in the Forties. The technology is conceived in terms of half a century ago: lumpy bakelite telephones, video screens that have still the look (sinister enough as it was) of Baird's Television, ancestral computers. Airstrip One has very much the air of post-Blitz Britain.

Alongside this careful period recreation Radford sustains the surrealism of Orwell's vision. Locations have been cleverly selected and used (the burnt-out Alexandra Palace for instance serves admirably, with the addition of a few posters, as Victory Square). As cinematographer, Roger Deakins uses colour often subliminally almost to sheeny monochrome, which emphasizes the nocturnal atmosphere of this world and the contrast with glimpses of the idyllic "golden country".

Concentrating on this visual realization of Orwell's text, the film considerably simplifies the action, and reduces the subsidiary figures. John Hurt's tortured face comes into its own as Winston, Richard Burton's portrait of O'Brien, the sophisticated Party tyrant, was his last major role, and is certainly one of the best performances of his later career.

We glimpse something of the aftermath of Eastern Europe's 1949/1984 in *Can This Be Love?*, a remarkable film to be shown for one night only at the National Film Theatre, on October 22. It is part of a retrospective devoted to the work of Yuli Raizman, one of the most neglected Soviet masters. The length of his career is alone phenomenal. He made his first film, *Penal Servitude*, in

1928, his most recent, *A Time of Wishes*, which closes the season, this year. His 1982 film *Private Life* opens at the Phoenix, East Finchley, on November 2.

Raizman's films have been distinguished by understated excellence, a feeling for character and a concern for individual happiness that survived the most oppressive periods of Soviet film-making. *Can This Be Love?* was made in 1961, at the close of one of the most liberated periods since the Revolution. It is ostensibly a simple story about a schoolboy and a schoolgirl who fall in love; yet Raizman shows devastatingly how much still remained from the dark years.

There is a chance to see in its entirety the best film of another great Soviet film-maker, now in voluntary exile, Andrei Tarkovsky. Andrei Rublev was finished in 1976, but held up for years, ostensibly because Tarkovsky's picture of the great icon painter's life in a barbaric medieval Russia was too dark for the time of euphoria of the fiftieth anniversary of the October Revolution. When it was released it was generally in very much doctored versions. The integral, three-hour version at the ICA is being shown for the first time in this country.

The Forties are in the air. The Highest Honour appears to be an Australian-Japanese co-production, faithfully recreating the story of the "Rimau" Ten, a group of survivors from a commando raid on Singapore who so inspired the respect of their Japanese captors that, when they were executed, it was with full military honours.

Theatre

Love's Labour's Lost

Stratford

Although *Love's Labour's Lost* has long since returned to favour it still carries some of its old reputation as an Elizabethan in-joke, confined to period from which the other comedies are free to take wing. Previous transplantations that I have seen put their emphasis on the picturesqueness, and it has been left to Barry Kyle to link the four votaries of the Court of Navarre with their counterparts in other times and other places.

The Stratford programme devotes two pages to summarizing a selection of such idealistically ascetic groups from the Pre-Raphaelites to the Milfordians; and the party that first assembled in the severe retreat of Bob Crowley's set - four identical desks each equipped with a *memento mori* - could well be setting out to change the face of art or establish a new religious order. They exude solemn fanaticism at every pore; and when the comedy gets down to dismantling their light-defying brotherhood it really has something to work on.

This also means that the turning-points of the play are exceptionally well articulated. The production develops as a sequence of comic tableaux, each one initiated by yet another challenge or exposure, as high resolve is repeatedly punctured by the demands of flesh and blood. Up to the arrival of Marcellus, when the death's-head of the opening



Roger Rees: part joker, part tempter

scene take on a human form, the challenges are all initiated by Berowne; and, from the moment when he first calls the group's bluff with a bray of derisive laughter, Roger Rees commands full authority to seduce his companions into common sense.

Part joker, part tempter, he excels in mockery without ever displaying the cruel wit for which he is finally punished. He also presents Berowne as the only one of the group who learns from experience, so that the letters scene catapults him into the love chase, and the Muscovite scene into the conversion to plain, honest speech, always pulling the other votaries along in his wake.

The period is late nineteenth century, with a blade-faced Longaville (James Simmonds) and a sloppily Bohemian Dumaine (Adam Bareham) who could well pass for members of an anarchist cell. But the real tension in the group is between Rees and Kenneth Branagh's King - a marvelously fleshed-out study of immature authority, his mask forever cracking in moments of crisis, senatorial charm subsiding into sulks or falsetto squeaks, and falling flat on his back in a dead faint when his love affair comes to light.

The next moment, the boys tear off their scholars' gowns and pursue their new quarry into the open air. First viewed through a gauze to the sound of a languorous vocalise (Guy Woolfenden's most impressive

score for a long time), the Navarre estate is an ash-white parkland surrounded by towering self-opening parasols and strewn with what could equally be flower-petals or torn scraps of paper.

In this dreamy environment the plight of the votaries is echoed by the other members of the court. Edward Petherbridge's Armado has no great struggle in abandoning his pile of books as he is partnered by a bewitchingly mischievous Moth (Amanda Root) and a radiantly beautiful Jaquenetta (Frances Barber). Also, unlike most Armados, Mr. Petherbridge's has powerful resources of Spanish fire that erupt even in company with Frank Middlemass's Holenotes.

The girls are always a problem in this piece as they share so little of the boys' youthful folly as almost to be outside the comic situation. On this occasion they are played with more elegance than fun, under the leadership of a sledgehammer Rosaline (Josette Simon).

The main achievement of this production is that it combines all the fun and atmospheric qualities of the play with a firm and indeed faithful sense of structure. There are also quantities of fresh invention - from Dull's first knock on the study door bringing in Costard on the end of a long rope to the sight of poor Nathaniel (John Rogan) hobnobbing on as Alexander in a huge pair of couthuri. A treat.

Irving Wardle

A legend who compels standing ovations

Bob Hope in Person

Dominion

It is neat justice that brings Bob Hope to a theatre that opened with a golfing musical, making one critic wonder what iron you would need to chip from the stage to the top balcony. Besides, as he says surveying the 1929 decor, "I feel younger in here".

The gait remains smooth and graceful, but age's effect on sex has become one of his stock-in-trades, exploited by his script-

writers with a sure touch between what a man might do and what he might prefer not to. Spry enough to "window-shop" in Soho, the Hope image keeps its dignity even in a mischievous exchange with Jane Beaumont, a brunette from his warm-up group *Stutz Bear Cats* (sic), who seems an improbable cross between Kiri Te Kanawa and Sophia Loren. He promises that what he did for Lillian Gish can do for Farrah Fawcett. Majors, and what answer is there to that?

But he has the skill to keep you in stitches with poorish

material, and the vitality would be nothing without the technique: he may spring eternal, but his anchor is secure. So, after announcing "Any time you need my talents, I'm your boy", he mutters "Boy!" into an aisle down front with a timing that musicians would puzzle to notate. The paragraph transitions, masking gaps between unrelated stories, are invisible and his breaths seemingly endless. Rather than interact with the audience's laughter, he just uses it as punctuation.

He shamelessly uses old gags like the one about the three-

legged chicken or the Irish porch-painter - the latter told as one of a clutch of Polack jokes which rub shoulders with some equally distasteful anti-gay funnies (hear the one about the male couple whose ashes were buried in a fruit jar). But next week's audiences in Nottingham, Portsmouth, Edinburgh, Wembley, Cardiff and Preston will see a legend who compels standing ovations on his first entrance, and disarmingly claims to watch himself on old movies like a son he never met.

Anthony Masters

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Salzburg is next year to have a new *Carmen*, staged and conducted by Herbert von Karajan, in the large Festspielhaus. It will be given two performances at the Easter Festival, and then in the main Summer Festival. The other new productions for the 1985 Summer Festival are Strauss's *Capriccio* (conducted by Klaus Tennstedt) and, in the Festspielhaus, Monteverdi's *Il ritorno d'Ulisse* in a new edition by Henze, conducted by Geoffrey Tate and produced by Michael Hampe.

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SPECTRUM

The South East is under threat of large-scale oil exploration.

John Young describes the fears that beauty spots will be destroyed

Black gold or green pastures?



The South of England, the swathe of down, forest and rich farmland stretching from Kent to Dorset, has long epitomised middle-class prosperity. The snug villages and picturesque small towns, the seaside resorts and yachting marinas seem immune to the convulsions afflicting much of the rest of Britain.

It is a region from which people commute in style or to which they retire in comfort. Polluting industries and vandalised, collapsing tower blocks of flats are as rare as parliamentary constituencies which fail to return a Conservative MP.

Employment would be full to overflowing if all the firms that would like to move there could overcome the vociferous objections of the hundreds of conservation and amenity groups determined to prevent them.

But along autumnal lanes, across tranquil estates, through Georgian high streets and among the neatly tiled and thatched roofs is blowing just the faintest breath of unease. For it is just possible that under this privileged and cherished corner of Britain lies a treasure that could change its destiny: oil.

Last week representatives of 23 villages (see map) gathered in Midhurst, West Sussex, to voice their concern about the threat to their tranquillity and seclusion posed by the activities of the oil companies. Next week they intend to deliver a resolution to 10 Downing Street, and to the Departments of Energy and the Environment, calling for a moratorium on all onshore oil exploration until the Government introduces new legislation to protect the environment.

Witch Heath gathering station in Dorset is an untidy but compact collection of pipes and tanks accumulating the crude oil from nine wells on the Isle of Purbeck. From there it is pumped to a rail terminal at Furzestown a few miles away.

Neither the gathering station, which is surrounded by conifer plantations, nor the "nodding donkey" wells could reasonably be described as eyesores. Tourists and most residents are scarcely aware of their existence.

The first well was sunk by the Gas Council in 1973. The Bridport reservoir, as it was christened, although by some way the largest onshore discovery in Britain, was not considered especially spectacular

or significant, and is at present yielding a modest 4,000 barrels a day.

Two things have since changed that. One was the decision in 1978 to drill an exploratory well into the triassic sandstone below the Bridport reservoir. This revealed a far larger accumulation extending, it is thought, under most of Poole Harbour, and with recoverable reserves equivalent to those of a medium-sized North Sea field.

The other was the present Government's insistence, bitterly resisted and fought against by the Gas Council, that the latter should dispose of its interest in Wyth.

On May 27 this year its holding was transferred to the so-called Dorset Group, a consortium of smaller oil companies, while the operating responsibility passed to the council's erstwhile partner, the giant BP group.

BP has lost no time at all in indicating that it wants to develop Wyth to its full capacity. Its plans envisage the sinking of about 50 new wells, raising production to 10 times its present output.

"Technically the development is a doddle", says Mr Michael O'Sullivan, the project manager. "If it was in the middle of the desert, we would just get on with it."

But it is very far from being in the desert. It is in a highly sensitive environmental area, full of jargon designations such as areas of outstanding natural beauty and sites of special scientific interest. It is, in layman's terms, a beauty spot and, on a fine day, the view from Studland across the harbour and, in the other direction, west towards Lulworth, is indeed spectacular.

A commendable characteristic of oil companies, at any rate the large ones, is that they have a highly developed sense of public relations. They are refreshingly candid.

BP has made it clear all along that, in order to develop what it calls the Sherwood reservoir to its maximum capacity, it would need to sink its 50 wells on three sites, two on Furzey Island in the harbour and one on the Studland peninsula.

Furzey, tiny and uninhabited, now owned by BP, lies next to Brownsea Island, one of the National Trust's most celebrated and zealously guarded sanctuaries. Much of Studland is also owned by the trust and forms part of the Purbeck Heritage Coast, which was awarded a conservation diploma by the Council of Europe last month.

As well as being candid and good at public relations oil companies are also keen to promote themselves as



Safety first in the oilfield: A BP man runs a check for gas on the pipeline at Lytchett Minster, Dorset

environmentally conscious. In the past four months BP has mounted a wide-ranging consultation exercise. When I met Mr O'Sullivan a few days ago, he was on his way to his umpteenth evening parish hall "presentation".

He describes the exercise as "highly successful" and useful to the company as well as to the public. For example, he has concluded that transporting heavy equipment by barge across the harbour would be unacceptable, although that still leaves open the question of how heavy transporter loads can be reconciled with narrow country lanes.

These are real fears. Others relate to a mixture of history and fiction—clusters of drilling rigs off the California coast, uncapped "gushers" spouting black goo into the Texas dust, large men with large hats and large cigars and loud voices invading the rural wilderness.

Having now officially completed

the public consultation phase, BP hopes to submit detailed planning proposals early next year. It is fortunate to be dealing with a particularly enlightened county council, which in conservation terms has an outstanding record, and with a local public which by and large has little taste for confrontation. Dorset is an evidently happy place.

However, it has to be said that Studland and Brownsea do raise emotional hackles. For all BP's assurances that the end results will be almost imperceptible, and that even the famous "nodding donkeys" can be avoided by the use of "down hole" pumps within the wells themselves, the drilling rigs would blight the landscape for at least two and a half years, and there would be extensive noise and disruption.

There is also the fear that this may be only the start. Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the industry minister, has said the Government will

not permit offshore drilling from artificial islands as an alternative to BP's plans.

But what happens if Sherwood proves to be only part of something still bigger? Could Bournemouth, of all places, become another Aberdeen?



Look east to Hampshire, Sussex and Kent, and you sense a different and less compromising mood. Deep among the hills and woods the oil companies are drilling test wells, uncertain whether to expect nothing, a small reservoir which might be commercially exploitable, or a bonanza.

The exploitation has been prompted by huge advances in the past 10 years in seismic technology. Discovery of the North Sea fields was by a certain amazement that sedimentary basins should exist between the granite cliffs of north-east Scotland and Norway.

In geological terms they should not have been there. Now the companies are more certain of what they are looking for.

The Government knows it too. In its recent circular to local authorities it observed that national parks, areas of outstanding natural beauty, sites of special scientific interest and nature reserves often owed their designation to the underlying geology. "Many of these areas are of potential interest for oil and gas development", it concluded.

Applications to exploit minerals should be subject to the most

rigorous examination, it said. None the less, full encouragement should be given, for strategic and commercial reasons, to applications for exploration and appraisal, while taking proper account of environmental considerations.

"Subject to the effects on the environment being fully assessed, and a satisfactory restoration plan prepared, applications for exploration and appraisal might therefore be favourably considered."

For "might" read "should", at least in the alarmed expressions of conservationists. Hampshire Oil Protection for the Environment (HOPE) has voiced concern about exploration applications for Hornsea, Aldershot, Ringwood and Humble Grove.

"Methods of oil extraction which have been developed in the wide open spaces of Texas or the deserts of Arabia are completely inappropriate for use in the heart of rural England", it says.

The Society of Sussex Downsmen is worried about the threat to Ditchling Beacon, a famous tourist attraction a few miles from Brighton. Still in Sussex, the Defence Group against Oil in Giffham and Neighbourhood has protested about the exploration activities of Conoco in Baxter's Cope.

Across southern England there are similar pressure groups intent on drawing public attention not so much to the depredations of the oil men, which so far have been few and limited, but to what might happen in the future.

"We don't want to prevent

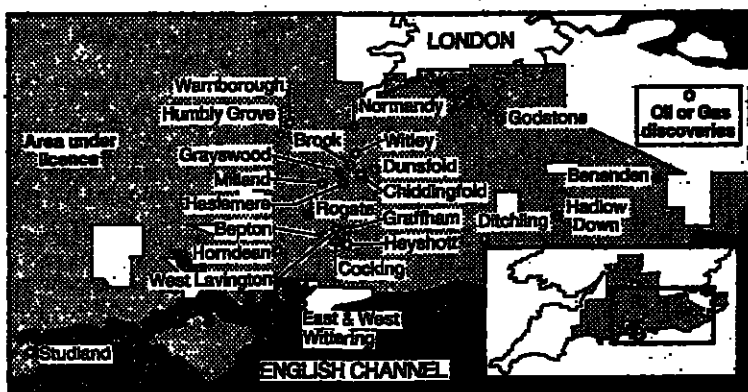
onshore drilling as such, but we would question the advice that the Government is giving county councils, who are responsible for mineral working, in drawing up their structure plans", said Mr Frank Freeman-Kel, who organized last week's meeting.

Unlike its counterpart in West Sussex, East Sussex County Council has made no bones about its priorities. It has produced a list of no-go areas, including all open downland and heath, Ashdown Forest and "heritage" coastland, where oil exploration should not be permitted.

Conservationists fear that the council's structure plan will, if and where expedient, be overridden in the name of national interest and that planning refusals will be countermanded by the Department of the Environment on orders from Downing Street.

The oil companies maintain that the residents' fears are largely groundless. Any disruption created by the search for oil is temporary. Once a well is in operation, there is so little to be seen above ground level that it can easily be hidden behind trees, bushes or a fence, or even encased in a shed.

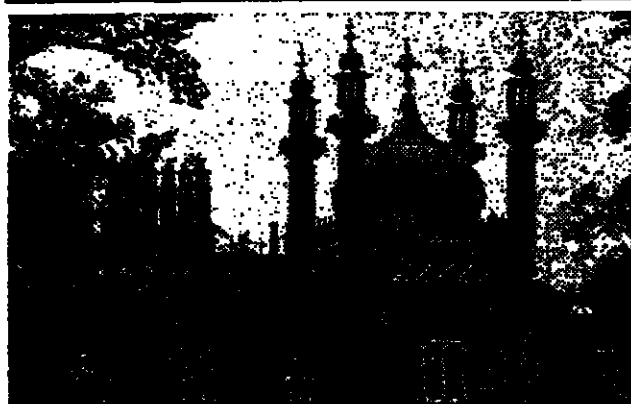
It is hard to imagine such a potentially lucrative development being so vigorously opposed in, say, the North-East or Merseyside. But the South-East is the home of a large and articulate middle class, the sort of people who, while they will happily pontificate about the need for Britain's industrial revival, will fight to the death to prevent it happening on their own doorstep.



Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

Portfolio £24,000 to be won



- Regent's resort: the lingering charm of Brighton
- The Sting: A business lunch on the Mekong
- Pathfinders: orienteering, a sport of wit and speed
- Sport: the first Frenchman in the English football league

PLUS: News from home and abroad; a critical guide to the week's arts; Values on telephone fashion; Drink on Californian winemaker Robert Mondavi; Eating out, a student's guide to Cambridge restaurants; Review, paperback of the month; Bridge; Chess and the Prize concise crossword.

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One of the rules of the Select Committee of Science and Technology when Mr Airey Neave presided over it in the early 1970s was that members should never rush for a train or plane. When he had a coronary thrombosis some years earlier, his doctor explained that running on these occasions was particularly dangerous for suspect coronary arteries as it combined excitement, tension and sudden exercise. Mr Neave attributed his recovery, in part, to following this advice.

The debate on violent exercise for the over-40s has been reopened by the case of Leonard Rossiter who died of a heart attack last week at the comparatively early age of 57. He started to play squash in his mid-40s and, as might be expected in somebody with such emotional intensity and energy, soon achieved competition standard.

Squash is a particularly dangerous game to play occasionally, combining, as does the dash for the train, excitement and sudden effort. It is also very vigorous and competitive and is played in hot surroundings where dehydration increases physical stress.

Research by a team of Glasgow cardiologists has shown that two-thirds of people in early middle age who play occasional squash develop undesirable changes in their ECG (heart tracings) either during or immediately after the exercise.

For nearly 20 years doctors working in routine medical screening have warned patients either to take vigorous exercise three times a week, or to be content with the equivalent of a brisk daily walk, or swimming a few lengths in a reasonably warm pool. Diving into cold water is not recommended.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

This advice has now been confirmed by work published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* which shows that although regular exercise, three times a week often reduces the heart attack rate by 40 per cent, the dangers of sudden catastrophe are enormously increased by occasional exercise.

In a fitness manual published this week which covers healthy living from conception to retirement, the authors suggest that everybody over 40 who wants to start an exercise programme should seek a medical opinion.

The BUPA Manual of Fitness and Well Being, published by Macdonald & Co, £12.95.

Body map

One European admiral, not British, must regret the pace of scientific advance in radiographic scanning which with the advent of magnetic resonance imaging offers hope of improved and safer diagnosis in neurological disease.

Before the admiral chanced to have his brain scanned with a new M.R. scanner he was pleased to think of himself as a straightforward, simple old sea dog, happy with his knowledge of naval tactics and strategy which he exercised in the command of an important stretch of the western sea defence system. His fellow officers found his decisions perfectly acceptable and his behaviour no more remarkable than that of many senior commanders.

The M.R. scanner gives a clearer picture of cerebral atrophy than the X-ray C.T. scan and on this occasion it gave a particularly clear picture of the admiral's brain which over the years had shrunk to a pitiful remnant of its former size.

Although it is well known that there is no direct correlation between the degree of cerebral atrophy and loss of intelligence

there must be some relationship. But those who worry about a sudden attack from the East can sleep happily in their beds secure in the knowledge that the admiral has now left his headquarters and is cultivating his garden.

The magnetic resonance scanner uses an intense magnetic field engendered by a powerful electro-magnet rather than the CT scanner X-rays, which inevitably pose some radiation risk for the patient.

The magnetic field acts on the hydrogen atoms on the human body altering the rotation of the electrons around the hydrogen nucleus; this stimulates each of the atoms to transmit a signal which is converted by a computer into a map of the part of the body being scanned.

As well as being useful in diagnosing cerebral atrophy, it is proving invaluable in detecting tumours, cerebrovascular disease, cerebral abscesses and patches of multiple sclerosis in the brain and even for pinpointing the exact area where a prolapsed intervertebral disc presses on the spinal cord.

Flu danger

The cold wet September has demonstrated earlier than usual that what patients can be divided into the phlegmatic who will never admit to anything worse than a heavy cold, and those to whom every sneeze is the initial symptom of flu.

Both groups can happily be prescribed aspirin, but in children the treatment is more controversial. Children cannot blow their noses, sore throats are complicated by earache.

Aspirin has long been the remedy of choice for the feverish child. Cheap and supposedly safe, it reduced the temperature and alleviated the pain, but since 1982 the cautious doctor

has worried about the possible association between aspirin, fever and the rare, but very dangerous, Reye's syndrome, which commonly occurs in children between the age of six months and four years.

The syndrome is characterized by a swelling in the brain, liver and other organs, with resulting vomiting and loss of consciousness.

This week's *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin*, in a review of the current situation, suggests it would be unwise for parents and doctors to ignore the possible association between aspirin and Reye's syndrome, and should give paracetamol rather than aspirin.

Short-sighted:

Doctors in eye clinics have overestimated both the effectiveness of doctor-patient communication and the strength of the concern a patient feels for close relatives. Glaucoma, a condition in which pressure inside the eye rises and damages the optic nerve, thereby causing blindness, can be treated so that reasonable sight is preserved provided that an early diagnosis is made.

Twenty years ago it was shown that the risk of developing glaucoma and the subsequent chance of blindness were much greater if a near relative had the same problem. It seemed then that the simple procedure of asking the patient to notify his immediate family that they needed a painless check would be enough.

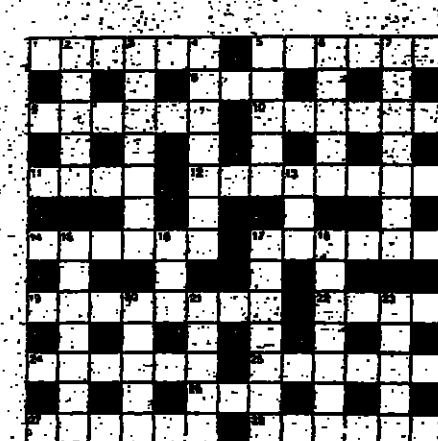
Mr A. R. Elkington, an eye surgeon from Southampton University, has now reported in the *British Medical Journal* on the poor results monitored from giving clearly worded literature and firm advice to newly diagnosed patients stressing the need to tell relatives of the possible danger to their sight.

He believes that clinics or GPs should notify relatives.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No. 469)

- ACROSS
- 1 Distinction (6)
 - 2 Overnight case (6)
 - 3 N America (1,1,1)
 - 4 Wall picture (6)
 - 5 Tedium (6)
 - 6 Flick through (6)
 - 7 Rice, fish breakfast (6)
 - 8 Whiskery cereal (6)
 - 9 Energetic man (6)
 - 10 Excision (8)
 - 11 Measure duration (4)
 - 12 Put in (6)
 - 13 French Algerian soldier (6)
 - 14 Supplement (7)
 - 15 Oriental market (6)
 - 16 Wanted (6)



- DOWN
- 1 Dwelling place (5)
 - 2 Desensable (7)
 - 3 Jailer (7)
 - 4 Operative (5)
 - 5 Cubic decimetre (5)
 - 6 US news (3)
 - 7 Solar ray (7)
 - 8 Caroline (3)
 - 9 Tiramisu Rep (7)
 - 10 US news (3)
 - 11 Occupant (7)
 - 12 Japanese topper (7)
 - 13 Content areas (5)
 - 14 Bury (5)
 - 15 Film (5)

SOLUTION TO No. 468

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MILAN FASHION by Suzy Menkes

From his to hers

Inside the streamlined silks of Italian fashion, there is a voluptuous woman thrusting to get out.

Short skirts, plunging necklines and curvaceous cutting brought blatant sexuality on to the Milan runways. This hymn to her was the more surprising, because the female woman replaces the androgynous, mannish silhouette of last season.

The worst of the collections was vulgar, tasteless and tarty. The best was a seductive offering of all-Italian style. New is the accent on the bust, as well as the legs, the return of colour and pattern, of sheer, drape and shape to fabrics. And cotton has now topped the supremacy of linen.

● Gianfranco Ferre's collection was the most harmonious with all the essential ingredients - warm Latin colours, clothes cut to the body with wraps and knots, all served up with grace and style.

He started with a shirt - a simple white over-shirt sculpted out of taffeta and worn with tobacco brown shantung trousers. The shirt came again in sunshine orange silk, in fresh white organdie or in matt black chiffon, cuffed at the elbow with a gilded lion's head button. With it went soft pyjama pants, slim knee-length skirts, wrapped like a sarong at the hips, or long slim skirts slit open at the back.

The line was pure, cut to the curves and softened with knots that caught in the back of a jacket or looped the shirt under the bust.

The colour theme - from cream shantung duster coats to shades of saffron and curry brown, lit with copper lame - picked up the gentle autumnal sunshine that bathed Milan all week.

● Gianni Versace knows how to refine the sensual side of female dressing. In a carefully worked collection, played out in light and shadow on a theme of black and white, he showed short, shapely skirts and shiny, sexy dresses, but always with a sense of proportion, and never the over-sexuality that made other Milanese designers look as though they were trying too hard.

Versace's prints were negative and positive - black paisley motifs making a strong statement on a white tunic vest against a quieter chalk stripe on plain black. The effect was a kaleidoscope of ever-changing patterns used for wide-shouldered jackets over slim skirts or trousers, as well as for the form-fitting dresses.

Versace has realized that to raise the hemline, you also need to raise the waist. His dresses and jackets with an obi-sash of fabric below the bust were a shock in a country that has a fashion fixation on the swayed hip. This new empire line looked very directional, and so did Versace's use of fresh cotton poplin rather than linen, of monochromatic prints slashed with a few bright colours and of materials that knot and drape.

● Giorgio Armani is a fine tailor but his collection, which put together mini-skirts and shorts and a wide-shouldered jacket, played on some of the most unfortunate themes from the 1960s: black and white op-art patterned dresses, Bridget



Riley striped jackets and see-through blouses.

Armani also believes in the bust, knotting up a jacket front under the bosom and making sweaters and blouses as transparent as lingerie. But from a designer who is rooted in the menswear tradition and whose models are as stringy as spaghetti the effect was unsure.

Best were the menswear touches: the pants suits in window-pane checks, the white collar worn wittily askew as a free-floating accessory and a striped pyjama jacket scattered with transparent paillettes for the ultimate evening shirt.

● The female woman has always been on display at Krizia, where designer Mariuccia Mandelli celebrated the 30th birthday of the fashion house by making party clothes. Glittering silver shone out as flashes on swimsuits, as lurex stitches in never-say-denim and as silver leather shorts or zip-up bustiers that brought back echoes of Barbarella.

● Prints were the star at Fendi, where designer Karl Lagerfeld sent out a liquorice all sorts pattern on swim-suits, flowered knits with mouth-watering shades of lilac and eau de nil, and spots of brilliant

Above: GIANNI VERSACE positive/negative paisley print with stripe

Above right: GIORGIO ARMANI knot at bust, short at legs

Centre right: KRIZIA city shorts with tailored top

Far right: FENDI one-arm tuxedo and skimpy skirt

colour on black with big coloured buttons.

There were echoes of Lagerfeld's former fashion career at Chloe in the rose-pink pannier-skirted dresses and in trim navy gabardine shown over transparent organdie blouses. The prints, by contrast, looked totally modern, from the abstract scribbles on silk to lozenges of colour printed on to suede as well as silk, emphasizing the Italian mastery of printing techniques.

If we thought that there was nothing left to do with the tuxedo, Karl Lagerfeld has an answer. He made a jacket with only one arm that fell sexily across the body. Less witty was the catch phrase he gave to the silhouette of his show. "Shaped to be raped" was his idea of the way women want to look for the 1980s. It summed up a season in which sensual clothes often fell into an abyss of tastelessness.



Maria Aitken and Gianfranco Ferre: "He has a reticence that is very English"

Maria in Milano

Maria Aitken is enjoying the fashion shows and the truffle season in equal parts.

"I suppose it is a sign of getting old", she says, "when you start to find food shops exciting."

She is in Milan to pursue her off-stage love affair with Italian clothes, a role that fits like a well-made shoe between her current farce at The Barbican and a trip up the Amazon next month for the BBC.

"The essence of Italian style is being aware of the bones beneath the surface", she says. "And Ferre seems to fit the structure of the woman underneath more than other designers."

Gianfranco Ferre is her fashion hero, his clothes the basis of a wardrobe for her life - as actress, mother to her 11-year-old son, TV chat show hostess, acting-school teacher, and now director.

She starts simultaneously in the new year directing with Anthony Quayle at the Old Vic and acting in a new role with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

"As an actress, I am rather used to being bossed about visually", she says. "But I had always thought that being dressed by a couturier was a cop-out. I like Ferre because it doesn't look as though I couldn't have put it together myself. And he doesn't seem to mind me corrupting his clothes with other things."

She is wearing a full-shouldered blood-red blouse. ("His devotion to shoulder pads marks part of my devotion to him.") From the new collection, she picked out the spicy colours that

go with her russet colouring. A dress of copper bugle beads, she says, to be lit on stage. Part of her relationship with Gianfranco is based on the idea that he will design the clothes for her in a play.

Maria has always been fashion aware: Yuki designed her dresses for *Design for Living*. She divides her own wardrobe into her performance wardrobe, including a capsule of separates for television so that there is the "odd shambly sequin" and "scruffy" clothes for her absolutely private life.

Like most of her own actress generation (she is 39) she does not believe that she has to play a role for her public. "Although Hermione Gingold did once tell me off for going out of the stage door wail-like and bejeaned, while she was in bugle beads and white leather."

Maria came to fashion bloom in the sixties: "There was the whole ethnic thing, buying faded Indian cotton in the Portobello Road, and as long as you were lightly tanned and had clean hair, it was all so easy."

Then she became unsure of her own taste, "always in a panic" about what to wear.

"Women think that the only way to buy clothes now is to demonstrate a thoughtful eclecticism", she says. "But I am woolly-minded about clothes and I wouldn't recognize anything other than an obvious masterpiece. With Ferre, I know it is what I like, but I didn't know until I saw him."

Gianfranco Ferre sashes Maria ("my thighs are too long and my ankles too thick") into a flame-red dress with a pert bow at the back. She slips more readily into a white taffeta shirt with bold buttons copied from a lion's head door knocker.

Ferre is never vulgar", says Maria. "He has a reticence that is very English."

Prints hot up

Italy's fashion reputation rests on its fabrics and its technical skills, as much as on its designs.

Skin is the speciality at Mario Valentino, who makes suede as fine as silk, and in the same prints and colours, or recreates pin-striped suiting in leather. There is a sensual feel to the collection, with deep V-necks at the bosom and vertical ruching at the derriere. The spot in white or black suede, body-fitting sheaths in emerald and chrome yellow, made an arresting statement.

At Erreuno, you can have your midriff-high blouse or your elongated blazer made in any fabric as long as it is Italian silk. Even the formal hacking jacket, the tail coat blouse and the cutaway coat come in slithering silk with sashes knotted through the jacket at the waist.

The Missonis have a painter's eye for colour and they weave strong primary shades into their magic carpet knits. Fresh orange, cobalt blue, purple and chrome yellow come as stripes or checks to give a modern graphic feel, and even the African-inspired wild prints are abstract.

Soprani spelled out his designs on the computer, producing prints that looked like the interference on a TV screen. When the summer heated up, the colours were stronger and came out as primitive and tribal prints in colours like acid yellow and jungle green.

Keith Varty is English, so his designs for Byblos uses the sweet florals of an English wallpaper. The chintzy patterns made soft, over-size separates in gentle colours.

Italian style has overwhelmed Paris designer Claude Montana, who used racing silks and strong sherbert colours for his sporty separates. His monochromatic prints were in the mood of Milan.



Above: ERREUNO woven stripe fabric with tie-belt jacket and short skirt. Tie and knots at bust and waist give a new emphasis

Centre: MISSONI abstract African print using bold primary colours on black for a short dress. Other Milan prints with a tribal feel showed primitive scribble designs

Far right: FENDI bold new prints on silk from Karl Lagerfeld using mixes of linear and bold random prints contained within an abstract frame

Night: COMPLEXE sports-inspired graphic print from Claude Montana for racing car swimsuit. The patterned swimsuit was an important new direction in Milan with random computer prints in hot colours the favourite. The legs for both swimsuits and the bikini are either slashed away waist-high, or are very long like Bathing Belle shorts



Photographs by Harry Kerr

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THE TIMES DIARY

The snooper snoopered

I hope that Peter Edge, the unemployed anarchist who on Sunday revealed that he has spent two years working for both MI5 and the East Germans, has declared the payments his spymasters made him. The *Observer* article, which estimates Edge received sums totalling £900 from each side, was read with interest by Colin Glasson, manager of the Bristol DHSS office that is paying Edge social security. Glasson would not comment on Edge specifically yesterday, but told me: "We would look into any case similar to Mr Edge's". According to a DHSS spokesman in London, social security payments are reduced by £1 for every £1 earned over £4 in a week, and those found not to have declared earnings are asked to repay the social security in full. Then, of course, there is the question of Edge's covert trips to meet contacts in East Berlin. People on social security must be available for work "at the drop of a hat", says the DHSS. Those found not to have been may find their future weekly payments abruptly curtailed.

Balancing act

Foreign Office minister Malcolm Rifkind told the Conservative Group for Europe yesterday, "Whenever I think about the budgetary problems I think about the problems of Errol Flynn. His problem was reconciling net income with gross habits".

What a slog

Mrs Thatcher must be becoming paranoid. When she was interviewed recently on the Jimmy Young Show, the BBC mischievously played *What Kind of Fool am I and Fool on the Hill*. On Wednesday night she was screened during her traditional waltz at the Young Conservatives' ball with *The Lady is a Tramp*. Afterwards, speaking in a voice described by one onlooker as the Roedean water torture, she began to admonish the bemused disco revelers: "There must be no weakness; we must stand together..." before realizing she had not quite caught the atmosphere. "Tonight we dance. Tomorrow we stand together", she corrected herself, and was escorted off by a grinning Denis to uggie, uggie, uggie chunts.

At the age of 82, retired miner Charlie Webster is warning wavering strikers that pitmen have long memories in Yorkshire. He should know: he has been banned from the Union Jack Memorial Club in Goldthorpe since 1926 for returning to work at Barnburgh colliery before the end of the General Strike. A motion to lift the ban in 1956 was defeated.

On and off

You don't need window posters in Newton Abbot to tell a household's politics. The local Labour party sent out leaflets asking supporters of the pit strike to switch on every light and electrical appliance at 6 pm to use up coal at generating stations. Then the Tories sent out rival leaflets exhorting quite the opposite. Either way, I'm told, the results are quite illuminating.

Wimpering

It cannot be easy being a member of the Mitford family. In July I reported how Jonathan Guinness, son of Diana Mitford, had had to drop *Shrieks and Floods* as the title of his imminent book on the family because the four surviving sisters said it made them look ridiculous. That left publishers Hutchinson with several thousand useless jackets and catalogues, but worse was to come. I now hear that final bound proof copies have arrived ready for Guinness to get cold feet and ask for three entire chapters to be cut lest he incur the wrath of Aunt Jessica. Why Jessica derives such deference I do not know. Alone among the sisters, she has refused to have anything to do with the book save orchestrate the protest at the title.

BARRY FANTONI



I suppose it's a move to shorten the miners' strike.

Paper money

Conscientious ecologists should avoid buying the book *Seeing Green*, by Friends of the Earth director Jonathan Porritt, which Blackwell published yesterday. It is not printed on recycled paper. "This is not for lack of trying," laments Porritt in his foreword, "and is more upsetting to the author than to any of his readers. It is just that the irrationality of contemporary economics makes such a use of recycled paper prohibitively expensive."

PHS

Bernard Levin: a question for the Prime Minister

Who will oppose loyally?



I have a suggestion for the Prime Minister, on which she may care to act when she addresses the Conservative Party conference today. She has hitherto kept out of the uproar over the recent remarks of the Bishop of Durham and other senior Anglican churchmen, but she can hardly be anything but displeased at what must seem to her to be the usurping of the politicians' function by the men of the cloth. My advice to her, therefore, is to take up the implicit challenge by having the conference centre rapidly consecrated (Dr Edward Norman would do the job for her), exchanging the rostrum for a pulpit and preaching a sermon instead of making a speech.

I even have a text for her: it is the Epistle to Titus, Chapter One, Verses 7-11: "For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; but a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayers."

Then Mrs Thatcher can get down to the contents, and the very first thing she must do - not the most important, perhaps, but undoubtedly the most urgent - is to announce that she has sacked the Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers. As my regular readers will know, I have always maintained that the chief function of any holder of that office is to pervert the course of justice if he can, and to reduce it to a preposterous and incomprehensible sham if he can't; but not even I have ever dreamed that I would live to see the day when the chief Law Officer of the Crown would go on the radio, sober and in his right mind, and pour forth a torrent of contempt of court - in, just to make matters worse, the form of prejudicial comment on a case that was *sub judice*. Of the accused man, the Attorney General said that he would probably be fined but that if he repeated his offence the judge might be obliged to send him to prison; he then added comments on the accused's standing in the eyes of the public and on his attitude in the matter that had ultimately led to the legal action against him. There are few dead men whom I less desire to see alive again than Lord Chief Justice Goddard, but in March 1949 I was sitting in the public gallery of the court when he sentenced the then editor of the *Daily Mirror* to three months in choker for doing little more than the Attorney General.

Mind you, it may be that Sir Michael, contemplating the sorry figure that the law is at present cutting, feels that it holds no terrors for anybody. On the first day of the Conservative conference, four ministers - Brittan, Walker, Gummer and Whitelaw - in one way or another assured the delegates and the nation that intimidation and violence as a means of political action would not be permitted, and that miners who wished to work would have their right to do so upheld and protected. Every one of the versions of this declaration was tumultuously applauded; it was clear that nobody in the hall had noticed that the claim, whoever was making it, did not contain even the smallest element of truth. For seven months, the law has lain rusting in its scabbard: the ancient Common Law prohibition of intimidation has remained unused, the recent legislation on picketing might as well not have been passed, the laws on conspiracy have gone on gathering dust, and the only recourse to the law of tort has been by a few working miners and a couple of haulage firms.

Meanwhile, Dr Owen, succumbing to his own form of *dementia alternans*, demands that the Government shall cancel the prosecution of a man already facing trial, a proposal which instantly shot full of holes his recently acquired reputation as a sensible politician leading a potentially sensible party. And up and down the land local councils prepare to distinguish between the laws they will obey and the ones they won't, trades unions make similar lists, and the Kincocks and Kaufmans polish up their ambiguities and make ready to encourage such action with both hands while reproving it with one.

Who is the crazier, doctor or patient?

Amid all this, the Government's claim that the strike and its outcome are nothing to do with them, and is governed by the principle that it must be settled between the NCB and the NUM, has had the unique effect of simultaneously alienating those who accept the principle but do not believe the claim and are therefore disappointed, those who believe the claim but do not accept the principle and are therefore outraged, and those who neither accept the principle nor believe the claim and are therefore contemptuous. (As for the fourth category - those who both accept the principle and believe the claim - there are no such people.)

It all adds up to a feeling of being locked in a madhouse where the doctors are crazier than the patients. But what is Mrs Thatcher going to say about it? Rather more important, what should she say about it?

Firstly, she can hardly be expected to refrain from jumping up and down, heels foremost, on the prostrate body of the post-conference Labour Party. The ravine, foaming, hawking, and frothing, of the AUEW spokesman mentioned the fact that the Soviet Union had many nuclear missiles a scream of rage erupted) do not yet, and may never, control the Labour Party positively - that is, make it do whatever they want; but they control it negatively - that is, they can

prevent it doing whatever they don't want. And what they don't want the Labour Party to do is to offer the electorate a democratic alternative to the Tories.

The Prime Minister, then, will draw pointed attention to this state of affairs; the ground has been cleared by her colleagues, particularly Mr Brittan, who wielded a nailed-studded club with a positively Tebbitian fervor and relish. When she has finished, she will of course get the ludicrous standing ovation (more smooth young men patrolling the aisles and looking at their watches to ensure that nobody stops clapping or sits down until it has gone on longer than it did for Mr Steel, Dr Owen or Mr Scargill) but when the lights are switched off, and the conference season is officially over, it will be possible, before Parliament re-assembles, to take a somewhat larger view.

Why we should rue Labour's demise

Like the beaten boxer whose seconds push him back into the ring for one more round, in the forlorn hope that he might find one lucky punch with which to floor the champion, the Labour Party lurches, punch-drunk, towards the next election. It is tempting, outside the ring, for the rest of us to hope that the fascist left will become more and more dominant, its policies more and more impossible, its intolerance more and more pronounced. Our reasoning is obvious: the more vicious and absurd the Labour Party becomes, the more certain is the voters' rejection of it for the most wretched claim of all is that the left's right were not led by men as abject as Healey and Hattersley; the slide has gone much too far to be halted. But is that really matter for unqualified rejoicing?

At the lifting of a sinister threat, yes, of course; at the disappearance of a coherent and credible Opposition, I think not. Perhaps the last Mince will happen, perhaps the Alliance will overhaul and ultimately replace the Labour Party. That would solve the problem, but it isn't going to happen, indeed many in the Liberal Party seem to be working night and day to ensure that it won't. It is much more likely that a void will open on the left-centre of British politics, such an emptiness will ensure that Mrs Thatcher remains Prime Minister until well into the second half of the next century, but there is more to politics than that. And, oddly enough, there is a clue in the Archbishop's musings, like a faint glimmer spotted for an instant in a thick fog. His remarks about unemployment are easily dismissed as those of a man who does not like to see his fellow men suffering but does not understand economics; it has to be said, however, that many millions of people in this country who are not archbishops are in exactly the same position as he. And we cannot allow ourselves to become desensitized to the kind of suffering involved, as the figures go on creeping up.

The terrible truth about our internal economic plight is that the solution that would work cannot in practice be adopted. If we could turn Britain into an economic replica of Hongkong, in which something close to a genuine market economy exists, we could find work for all by dint of knocking the floor out from beneath wage-levels. And to those (they include the Chancellor) who agree that fixed minimum wages and the social security net are driving up unemployment, I reply that the

present government came to power pledged to get government of all kinds off the people's backs, and has so far been unable even to begin the process by reducing public spending, indeed has been unable to stop public spending going up.

In these circumstances, with every claim that the recession is ending being followed by an increase in its effects (if not in its severity), with the Labour Party dying of self-inflicted wounds, with the Alliance further than ever from the Promised Land of the electoral breakthrough, what sort of Opposition can there be?

The answer is already visible and audible, and will become more so. We willed ourselves to make a society that would be inextricably interdependent, and we were so proud of our social and cultural homogeneity that we failed to see how few determined people it would take to make it increasingly unworkable.

Come, let us speak the unspeakable. Suppose the miners' strike continues into a hard winter. Suppose the only alternative to widespread power-cuts and a three-day week is (as it speedily would be) to move far more of the massive deposits of coal at the pitheads to the power-stations. Does anyone suppose, with the miners' leaders desperate, that that can be done, and continue to be done, without bloodshed, a State of Emergency and soldiers? The unemployed may not rise in the streets, but you presumably read of the battle-dressed gang which a few weeks ago, led by a woman, destroyed a colliery office and mining equipment. I take it you do not suppose that they were miners?

I am not making a plea for "consensus", the mistake the bishops make is to believe that it is possible to find common ground with people who tell children that their working father is going to be murdered, and their mother that the children are. With such people, the bishops may hold out the hand of peace in the hope that it will be taken; so it will be, as a matter of fact, followed by the wrist, forearm, elbow, biceps and shoulder. But when we have got the truth into Dr Runcie's head, we have still got to get the truth he glimpsed into ours. This country cannot, like Gaul, be divided into three parts: a majority in work, a minority sunk into despair, and another minority determined to use every kind of extra-parliamentary activity and an increasing level of violence to damage the fabric of our society so seriously that real economic collapse will become a possibility.

Baldwin saw earlier than any of his contemporaries that the Labour Party would one day form the government of Britain, and he worked, successfully, to ensure that when that day came Labour would have acquired the political understanding and responsibility that it would need if the essential democratic continuity was to be achieved. The Labour Party of today is within inches of being entirely taken over by the people who wholly reject any democratic continuity, because it seeks democracy's destruction.

Mrs Thatcher said, during the last election, "The Labour Party will never die", but she said it because she had seen the possibility that the Alliance could be a real threat to her party. What will she say now that the Labour Party insists on committing suicide? If all she says to Labour is "Good riddance", and all she says to the unemployed is "Wait", she will have wasted a crucial opportunity. But she will have done worse than that.

Politicians say that they want and

welcome opposition. It isn't true. But it is true that they need it, not for their sake but for ours. The Tory Weis have proved as feeble as the Labour moderates, and she picked them off one by one.

Dr Owen is - cannot help being - too concerned with calling down equal-sized plagues on the other two houses. Mr Steel is beset by treachery and folly within his own ranks; Labour opposition will soon consist entirely of Mr Tam Dalyell asking questions about the sinking (by Lord Chalfont and Sir Peter Blaker) of the *Brigadier Harbottle*. Somebody credible has got to go on asking this government why the end of the rainbow is still so far off.

For the point is that even if Britain had no unemployment at all, and for good measure no inflation, no poverty, no single-parent families and no rain on Bank Holidays, the government would still need an effective alternative, and without one would start to decay. Why should a government strive particularly a government which argues that governments can do very little anyway - if it has nothing to fear from a rival? As I have suggested, it has much to fear from a rising tide of political violence (which in any case will sooner or later begin to breed counter-violence), but there is something else that a wise party leader will fear, which is the encouragement of the Bad Samaritan who, because he has a job and a rising income, ceases to care about, or even to see, those who have neither.

A fruitless seeking for alternatives

The Labour Party has embraced a defence and foreign policy based on surrender, an economic policy that would stoke up the roaring furnace of inflation and damage industry still further, and a social policy that consists of asking Mr Scargill what he wants and then giving it to him. It is painful and boring for a commentator to waste his time solemnly examining and analysing Labour's policies; he may as well spend time carefully reviewing all the evidence that the earth is flat. But a party's policies, and its performance, and its leading figures, and its attitudes, can only be properly and fruitfully judged against a coherent set of alternatives. At the moment, there are no alternatives apart, I suppose, from the bishops. Mrs Thatcher, this afternoon, can rejoice in that fact. But if she is far-seeing, she will not. She can hardly appeal from the platform for an Opposition to manifest itself, but there are still good men and women in the Labour Party, and from the final wreck some of them will be saved.

Well, then, let the Prime Minister distinguish between the sheep and the goats. Let her look ahead to a time when the country is striding of the Tories. Let her bear in mind that the vacuum which politics abhors as much as nature does will be filled somehow, and possibly - if she has helped to destroy sheep and goats alike - with something very much worse than can at present be imagined. And let her also, while she is dwelling on the subject of political violence, remember that not very much of it, as we have seen in Northern Ireland, is required to change fundamentally the nature of a people's life. And since, if she is going to do these things, she has to start somewhere, let her signal her intentions by saying something nice about the Bishop of Durham. After, of course, sacking the Attorney General.

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David Watt

No more windfalls: just rotten apples

A Conservative Party conference, in so far as it ever strays from its role of demonstrating and promoting solidarity, is normally a dialogue between the complacent brass hats (or shades of brass hats) from Westminster and Whitehall and the more or less discontented soldiery from the constituencies. This year, for the first time that I can remember, things are the other way round. The rank and file are in pretty humour; it is the ministers who are worried.

The relative complacency of the party activists is understandable. They are still basking in the afterglow of the general election. The frightful disarray of the Labour Party is pure jam to them. They are alarmed by the spectacle of violence on the picket lines but their fears are offset by a strong frisson of excitement and certainty.

It seems at least that red revolution is really on the march and the barricades of freedom are actually waiting to be manned. The Home Secretary had an excellent reception for his announcement of new backing for the police; he would have had a rapturous one if he had said that Mr Scargill and his cohorts would land up in jail.

What about unemployment? Here, I think, a small worm of doubt is beginning to gnaw at the edges of the rose petals. The Chancellor's speech was, by the symptomatic standards of Tory conferences, a failure. The standing ovation failed to materialize because Mr Lawson got the worst of all worlds. He acknowledged, almost in the words of Archbishop Runcie, the helplessness and misery of those in the dole queue but then, in effect, went on to say that for the foreseeable future they had just got to lump it.

Behind a fairly brassy facade, the Government's self-confidence has been badly shaken by two sets of figures whose implications the professional politicians are much better able to comprehend than the party faithful.

The first, of course, are the unemployment statistics. It is one thing, politically speaking, to ask the country to accept that there may be more than three million out of work for months or even years, so long as the general trend is even fractionally down. It is quite another to confront us with the hopeless vision, invoked by the latest figures, of an almost endless upward march. For one thing, people need hope. But, more importantly, they need explanations. The Government has been enormously successful for more than five years in presenting unemployment as the accumulated wages of past sins of over-consumption, under investment and over-manning. The painful necessity of a "shakeout" has been almost universally accepted; the Government has been duly absolved of serious responsibility; and the fact that the Conservatives campaigned in 1979 on the slogan "Labour Isn't Working" has been conveniently lost in the mists of time.

The question that is now tormenting everyone, from Mrs Thatcher down, is whether the shake-out thesis can retain its political magic under the new circumstances. Surely all the rotten apples were supposed to have dropped off by this time? Didn't the Chancellor himself imply as much quite recently? If, as now seems apparent, events are to prove

him wrong, will not voters begin the clamour that the Government has been given enough time to stop the rot, or possibly that it should stop shaking before there are no apples left at all? The fine print of the latest opinion poll suggests that this may be beginning to happen. Unemployment has lost none of its importance to the electorate; what has changed is that there is more criticism of the Government's handling of the issue.

The other overpowering worry, naturally, is the miners' strike. It is always on a lot of people in high places that the Government is already in a "no win" situation. Either the strike will be settled on terms that cannot possibly be presented as a victory over Mr Scargill - or it will drag on with an accumulation of bitterness and violence that the public have no stomach for. The comparison that is sometimes drawn between the Falklands Factor and the Scargill Factor as buttresses for Mrs Thatcher's position is all very well in the short run. But there is a crucial difference. The Falklands war was brought to a swift and victorious conclusion; the Scargill war has already turned into a messy, inglorious affair in which pretty well all the combatants are likely to be losers. Very few people have any time for Mr Scargill, but a growing majority also seems to believe that the Government has badly mis-handled the affair.

The significance of the Archbishop's intervention is that he has tied these two key issues together. Individually they are dangerous enough for Mrs Thatcher; fused into one, their destructive power is vastly enhanced. What Dr Runcie is saying - with careful circumspection but with the authority of his office and at the most embarrassing moment for the Government - is that you cannot safely manage economic change by the simple operation of the coercive forces of the market and of self-interest. A shake-out may be necessary, but if you are going to have on persuasion and consent are indispensable; for if they are not present, the result will be the kind of reaction that we are seeing among the miners. In other words, the Government has been guilty of a serious sin of political omission, and if it does not quickly repent and reform, the national community may be gravely damaged for a generation or more.

In answer to this the Government now offers its own link between the miners and unemployment: Mr Scargill is an example of trade union monopoly which is pricing people out of jobs. This is pretty desperate stuff considering that even Mr Tebbit affirms that the miners' strike is the last of its kind. The same could be said of the common complaint that Dr Runcie is "unfair". Have they not expressed their heartfelt sympathy for the unemployed? Did they not initiate the Youth Training Scheme and other palliatives? Have they not offered the miners a magnificent pay-off? Yes, but the accusation still pursues them relentlessly: if they had paid more attention to political persuasion, and if Mrs Thatcher had cared more about consent, they would not be where they are now. To the constituency activists, perhaps, that does not seem a bad place to be; but it is plain that privately neither the Prime Minister nor most of her colleagues agree with them.

Philip Howard

And thundering in to the final page...

Television is the entertainment for boys; journalism for men; but he who aspires to be a hero must read intentional fiction. Novels and poetry are the hard stuff of literature. They last longer and matter more than other kinds of writing. The best novels and the true poems are the stars of the creative intellectual work of their generation. That is why it is offensive to see them treated like racetracks in the annual wave of Bookermania that is going to sweep over us next week.

Let us not be priggish about it. Giving £15,000 to a serious novelist is a far, far better way for a big company to spend a bit of its profits than in most other forms of sponsorship, including Test matches. Let us hope that this year Booker McConnell show better taste than they did last year, when they at once used photographs of the winning book to advertise some of their medical products. It is one of the few times of year that you can get the hard men of journalism, who regard literature as timeless and therefore a nuisance, to take novels seriously.

The trouble is that books are not racetracks. To pick one as a winner entails picking many others as losers.

I have now read all six novels on the shortlist: oh, yes, the life of a literary editor has its compensations, even though they may seem at times quite effectively disguised. They are all good books, and I shall not be outraged to see any of them win next Thursday. My judgment of which is "best" has varied, depending on such subtle things as my mood (do I feel like being teased, moved, inspired, taught, or given an intelligent, entertaining read?), and on such trivial things as which novel I read last. I have at times felt that five of them deserve to win. I had better put my money where my mouth is, and state that I would not give the prize to the hot favourite. But that is because I personally am not a great fan of adventure stories, however symbolic, set in Japanese internment camps. There I bet I find myself sitting at his table at the dinner now.

(Parenthesis: the appearance of

Empire of the Sun on the shortlist has confirmed the axiom that anything to do with imprisonment and the Japanese creates uproar and outrage. I have had more than 20 letters complaining that it really wasn't like that at all at the Lunghua Civilian Assembly Centre. I have written back explaining carefully that fiction is different from history, and that no doubt Nestor thought Homer's account of the Trojan War all wrong; and the inhabitants of Rotherhithe were displeased by Dickens' horrendous description of their home.)

May the best woman (or man) win. At present I should go into the meeting of the judges on Thursday prepared to argue for Anita Brookner and Alan Barnes; but Thursday is a long way away. Ballard's is the one of which you could send most copies to the non novel-reading classes in W. H. Smith's. I hope that no television interviewer asks the chairman of the judges at the dinner whether he has really read all those books to the end.

In the long run I am going to have to do something to spread out the autumn Niagara of novels encouraged by Booker. Good novels are going past unreviewed in the flood. It might mitigate the madness if you moved the Booker Prize to January. But why should Booker McConnell want to reduce the hubbub?

Apart from Booker is the weekly but important world of literature. I have to tell you that I am sending Jane Somers out for review for this time. You may have read that this was the novel written pseudonymously by Doris Lessing, and received with deafening silence. Because of hype and splinters up the fingernails from the publishers, I sent it out twice when it was first published. On both occasions the reviewers judged other novels more worth reviewing. Maybe the publishers did not help their case by stating, untruthfully, that the novel was by a famous Fleet Street journalist, perhaps causing respectable reviewers to sniff Glenda Street. Perhaps the reviewers just thought other novels were better.



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UNDERSTANDING UNEMPLOYMENT

Apart from the constitutional and political implications of Mr Scargill's strike, unemployment has been the dominant topic at this year's Conservative Conference. Even before yesterday's debate on the subject, the concern of Tory constituency representatives about the human, social and political implications of the number of people without work had repeatedly surfaced in debates on other subjects. There is a general demand from the Conservative rank and file that the government should do more than it has done so far to equip people for available work and to promote employment by whatever means it can, though there has been no general call for a reversal of present economic policies.

That is, indeed, the right approach to a problem whose seriousness requires no elaboration. The government's existing economic policies, of which Mr Nigel Lawson gave a generally convincing but uninspiring defence on Wednesday, remains broadly the right one, whatever may be said about his failure to project them forward in his speech. Even if a policy of attempted economic expansion by government borrowing and spending were to give a temporary boost to the economy, its inflationary aftermath would only damage the long-term prospects of rebuilding employment on a secure and durable economic foundation.

That said, however, the government and the country are confronted with a difficult challenge as a result of the failure of the number out of work to fall automatically with the revival of economic activity.

The country and the Conservative Party are rightly worried about unemployment and there is a feeling abroad that the government has shown a lack of adequate concern and insufficient conviction in addressing itself to the problem. In his conference speech, Mr Lawson, by concentrating almost exclusively on the undeniably correct theme that jobs were being priced out of existence by unjustifiably high wage demands, gave the impression of being fatalistic about unemployment. Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday went a considerable way to correct that impression.

He, too, rightly, had much to say about the responsibility of trade unions for the over-manning, the restrictive practices and the resistance to technological change which have priced some industries, as well as particular jobs, out of existence in Britain. But he also had several decisions of significance to announce. Over the next year, the government is to double the number of places provided for adult training which is a sensible and proper response to the lack of skills which still result in unfilled job vacancies in the midst of heavy unemployment. There is also to be a campaign to bring home to employers, unions and employees the importance of training: the enterprise allowance scheme, which helps unemployed people to set up on their own, is being continued. The government's Youth Training Scheme has been a success and that too is to be built upon.

It is essential to explain to the nation much more fully, and in comprehensible terms, what the real nature of the problem is and

how it has come about that (as Mr King himself touched upon yesterday) the potentially working population is steadily rising, which is a major factor in the high unemployment figures. Indeed, it has risen by half a million in the lifetime of the present government, and by 160,000 in the present year.

There is, however, not merely a need for greater understanding of why unemployment continues to rise, despite the fact that more jobs are available. Much more public understanding is also needed both of the dynamics of the labour market and of the varied nature of unemployment. Its volatility and of the ways in which its causes differ from place to place and in different types of employment. We should not become mesmerised by the man of statistics into believing that there is a single phenomenon in society which can be labelled accordingly, because there is no such thing.

Above all, it is essential for people, individually as well as corporately in their companies and unions, to understand better how they can change the situation by changing their own attitude. For the young, especially, it is important for there to be understanding that low-paid work which puts them on the first rung of the jobs ladder, is better than social security, even though the differential in take-home money may not seem to them superficially to be worth a week's work. Mrs Thatcher should today reach out beyond her party to tackle these misgivings, and show, with compassion why the scope for the government to work miracles is strictly limited.

THE CHIP ON THE BATTLEFIELD

The International Institute for Strategic Studies' annual review of the world's military balance once more draws attention to the East-West gap in conventional forces. While it is not so wide as to tempt one side to attack the other, the trend is dangerous enough to require corrective measures.

Neither the observation nor the debate which it engenders is new. But the latter has recently contained fresh arguments which need addressing. They involve what the Pentagon, with a fine eye for a catchline, has christened Emergent Technology or ET.

ET is the product of micro-circuitry and the silicon chip and parallel advances which are threatening to revolutionize military science as they are almost everything else. For the first time in the history of warfare soldiers are having to contemplate a battle in which they might find most of the targets they are looking for and destroy them first time — without, that is, the lasting collateral damage associated with nuclear weapons and the implicit threat of mutual genocide. That is the theory anyway.

The problem about Nato's strategy of flexible response, formally adopted in 1967, is that while it might indeed constitute a response, it is certainly not very flexible. The switch from conventional to nuclear weapons to stem an attack in Central Europe has a look of inevitability about it and would probably come sooner or later. Given ET equipment — surveillance sensors, improved electronic jamming and communications systems and long-range pre-

cision-guided munitions (PGM) — the survivability of conventional troops would be vastly improved. The "first-use" of tactical nuclear weapons might no longer be the issue that it is.

Those who are actively opposed to nuclear missiles have seized on this emergent generation of "smart" weapons as one reaches for a light in the darkness. Moderates in the Labour party have perceived through it a path of respectability between the acceptance of nuclear deterrence on the Right and the open opposition to defence spending on the Left.

General Bernard Rogers, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, has for them become a reluctant hero, following his initiative two years ago when he called for renewed emphasis on conventional defence — at last made feasible by the advance of ET. He then estimated the cost as a four per cent annual rise in allied budgets — only one per cent more than the three per cent to which they were already committed.

But would it work? Ever since the invention of the catapult men have predicted with the advent of each new weapon that warfare would never be the same again. To a limited extent they have been right, but to over-state the case is as dangerous as the opposite assumption that the next war will be much the same as the last, needing similar preparation.

General Rogers forecast that after a decade or so of investment on the scale he specified, Nato would have a realistic conventional defence in Western Europe, which assumes that the concessions will have to be offered. That is a true inference.

Most travellers who get that far then turn their attention to means of winning the acquiescence, and in security matters the active support, of the Catholic/nationalists of Northern Ireland. The Macrory group concentrates more on winning the cooperation of Dublin.

Since Dublin's cooperation will be contingent on the constitutional nationalists in the North (the SDLP) being satisfied, however grudgingly, with the arrangements that are made for the province, it might be thought not to matter whether one is looking primarily for what will bring the Northern nationalists along. But in fact the emphasis causes the Macrory group to underestimate the concessions that will be necessary to reverse the "alienation" of the nationalists, or win the backing of the SDLP for the security forces or any new political arrangement.

It is proposed to reconstitute a provincial assembly as an upper tier of local government, at present missing, with all parties entitled by statute to committee chairmanships in proportion to their strength. It is also proposed to elaborate on the Anglo-Irish Inter-government Council, with special emphasis on a joint security commission to co-ordi-

ate counter-terrorist activities in the British Isles. The first is the answer to "power sharing", the second to the "Irish dimension", those twin elusive pillars of green.

Unionists commonly advance two principles to be observed in arranging the government of the province: no fancy institutions, just plain as they come to the rest of the kingdom; and all North-South palaver to be on a government to government. London to Dublin axis, not an all-Ireland footing. Both principles are compromised in these proposals — by making statutory a proportional division of regional government chairmanships, which the authors mis-describe as a "generally accepted convention" throughout the rest of the kingdom; and by having as the key body in the joint security commission one consisting of GOC Northern Command and representatives of the RUC, the Garda and the Irish Army, a potent team which may just, but only just, be saved from all-Irelandism by the GOC.

It is wisdom on the part of the Macrory group to advocate practical arrangements at variance in some respects with those principles. The complications of life in Ireland require no less, and suggest that Mr Hurd would have to go further if he is to get all-round backing for a joint anti-terrorist campaign.

Truth, compassion and Conservative Party policy

From Professor Gordon J. Stewart
Sir, Mr Gummer (report: October 9) asks the Archbishop of Canterbury to confront the truth. Would Mr Gummer care to confront the following aspect of it?

In Glasgow, the effects of unemployment and poverty are now affecting the health of children. The strongest single reason underlying admissions of children to hospital, for any reason is parental unemployment: the next strongest is overcrowding of homes.

A child living in these circumstances is about nine times (five to 100 times) more likely to require admission than one living in better home conditions.

Glasgow is, of course, by no means unique in this respect. There is reason to believe that in other industrial areas the problem might be worse. If Mr Gummer enquires of Mr Fowler's department, he will find that the situation has been reported.

The truth which Mr Gummer and his colleagues cannot evade is that the growth of unemployment leading to poverty and hopelessness as a mandatory life-style has created a widespread blight which, in matters of health and in other ways, might now be seriously affecting the next generation.

The Archbishop was careful to avoid oversimplification in discussing causes, responsibilities and remedies. In their pragmatic response to him, Mr Gummer and his colleagues are surely compromising any possibilities of the kind of cooperative effort which is so urgently needed for remedial action.

In the field of health to which I refer, their only visible policy is one of further managerial and bureaucratic reorganisation, as dictated by Mr Fowler, and of open-ended privatization. This will lead very controversially to nowhere.

GORDON J. STEWART,
Springwell,
High Down,
Toland,
Isle of Wight.

From Professor G. G. Haselden
Sir, There are three points — as in any good sermon — on which, reluctantly, I take issue with the Archbishop (as reported in the interview). These concern: the presentation of the setting, the violence problem and the Christian viewpoint.

Sometimes it is good for a peacemaker to come with an open mind, but at other times it is better to be equipped with a few background facts. The mining dispute, as the Archbishop rightly indicated, is not a very large problem centred on unemployment, but it has special features.

Before the dispute erupted the Government was subsidising the NCB to the tune of nearly £100 million a year. This was not a very good thing. Certainly the sum should not be increased unless there is very cogent long-term reasons.

Moreover the NCB is also spending a great deal of money (£1,000m) to improve the industry by opening up new mines which produce coal both more cheaply and

more safely than most present pits. The difficulty arises because this policy, which from most points of view is nationally desirable, involves fewer jobs for miners and a move to other sectors.

This is the problem; but to put it in terms of "economic growth, better living standards, higher pay for those in employment... if the human consequences of such aims must be employment on an unprecedented scale... poverty, bureaucracy, despair... is surely unhelpful. We are dealing with a nationalised industry, and how best to run it for the long-term benefit of the miners and the country.

The second issue is that of violence. Large-scale picketing involving deliberate opposition to the law is a desperately serious issue. If a large assembly of able-bodied miners choose to close a road to prevent other miners going to work, or the delivery of coal to a coke-oven, what are the police to do?

To do nothing is the beginning of anarchy. To use physical force to move the miners is to be guilty of violence. Possible methods of avoiding violence are to stop pickets assembling or to use such large numbers of police, or horses, that the spirit of the pickets will crack and physical contact be avoided. But these are not sufficient solutions and the problem remains.

In this situation, for the Archbishop, in his words of censure about violence and confrontation, to put the police first and the pickets second (on two occasions) is, in my view, shameful.

The third issue concerns the Christian viewpoint. My authority in daring to question his words is that I am only a Methodist local preacher. Of course my heart warmed at his reference to the power of prayer and to the affirmation "that there is no tragedy which cannot be redeemed in Christ". But I wish he had gone further.

The challenge of mass unemployment, the bigger problem of which the mining dispute is only a part, is too big to be solved by political decision alone. The "marvellous possibilities" now available of freedom from drudgery, poverty and disease and meaningful living can be realised only by the exercise of unselfishness on a scale which will not happen without God's help in Christ. I wish the Archbishop had said so.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY G. HASELDEN,
The University of Leeds,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
Leeds,
West Yorkshire,
October 10.

From Sir David Price, MP for Eastleigh (Conservative)
Sir, In his speech on October 9, Mr Scargill, Religious Affairs Correspondent, the Archbishop of Canterbury sets himself a false dilemma when he talks about the conflict between "efficiency and compassion". I believe that much of the Archbishop's subsequent criticism of the Government flows from this error of analysis.

There is no such necessary conflict. On the contrary there is overwhelming evidence from a wide variety of organizations to

demonstrate that an inefficiently run organization is never a happy one in which to live or work.

On the other hand, I know of no efficiently run organization where the morale is low. Has the Archbishop forgotten his own experiences in the Scots Guards?

In the religious world he might like to visit a Cistercian monastery or a mission run by the White Fathers to see efficiency and compassion totally integrated in the service of God.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PRICE,
House of Commons,
October 10.

From the Reverend P. R. Clifford
Sir, The strictures on Dr Runcie at the beginning of your leading article (October 9) are in part rebutted in a leader paragraph where you list some of the measures which the Government might have taken, but in fact has failed to do so.

Nobody, least of all the Archbishop, believes that the problem of unemployment can be solved by some magic formula. It is much too complex for that. Nor is the Government's limited success in tackling inflation or beginning the restructuring of British industry to be underrated. What the Archbishop was saying was that the consequences of these measures have not been faced with sufficient imagination and compassion.

It is simply not enough to leave employment to market forces. Alone they will not solve the problem. Nor are the limited measures for retraining so far taken anything like sufficient. The case for a major programme of public expenditure has not been persuasively answered, nor has it been convincingly demonstrated that this would result in roaring inflation.

When ministers argue that the country cannot afford public expenditure because money is not available, scepticism is justified. If there is felt to be an overriding need for something to be done, money is found, as for the war in the South Atlantic, the maintenance of the Falklands, or the policing of the miners' strike.

The time has come to ask whether we have been mystified by monetarist dogma, treating money as a scarce commodity instead of the tool for getting things done. The Archbishop was really questioning Government values and priorities, and he was right.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL ROWNTREE CLIFFORD,
Reform Club,
Pall Mall, SW1,
October 9.

From Mr W. R. Eyres
Sir, Surely Mr Tebbit didn't mean to say that if the Government would not have bound up the victim's wounds (your report on *Panorama*, October 9).

On the other hand, if he was reviving the Victorian concept of the cash nexus as the only bond between man and man, then it is hardly surprising that there is a rift between the Government and the Church of England.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD AYRES,
27 Grove Terrace, NW3.

Art in jeopardy

From Mr Anthony Caro
Sir, The present cuts are giving fine art a severe beating: so much so, I fear for the future of artists and of contemporary art in England.

First, the system is being abandoned whereby art is taught in art schools, not simply by professional art teachers, but by working artists teaching part-time. Under this system not only were would-be artists trained by contact with those who practised art, but also painters and sculptors were enabled to earn a living during the difficult years when their seminal work was produced but its worth was as yet unrecognized by the public.

Second, those art departments in painting and sculpture which are particularly well thought of are in the greatest danger of being shut down on the grounds of isolation or specialisation. Fine art at Falmouth, sculpture at St Martin's, and painting at Winchester are now closed or are under threat of closure.

Third, the GLC's notice served on the Arts Council to quit the Hayward Gallery, the second threat of closure within six months, would block a superb programme of international art exhibitions scheduled for the next two years. It is vitally important to artists, as well as the community at large, that this venue remains open.

I was recently asked by an artist who was considering moving abroad in which country it would be best to live and work. My reply, "Why not stay in England? It's a good place to make art," is coming to have a hollow ring.

With art courses in jeopardy, with their teaching cut to a little over four hours a week, with their eyes starved of great art in fact almost totally without encouragement, it would hardly be surprising if we were to see an exodus of our best artistic talents.

Yours,
ANTHONY CARO,
111 Froland,
Hampstead, NW3,
October 2.

Protecting churches

From the Secretary of SAVE
Britain's Heritage

Sir, I cannot, I fear, join Lord Sandford (October 3) in congratulating you on your recent leader (September 28) on the care of historic churches. Your piece was, however, much as many of us must take issue with it, cogently argued and must rank as one of the more vigorous defences made in recent times of the "ecclesiastical exemption".

Lord Sandford, in contrast, seems to me to be guilty of that supremely Anglican sin, complacency. Statistics are always suspect. The Church Commissioners may argue that they prove the Church is a singularly responsible owner of historic buildings. One might equally argue that no single owner has destroyed so many buildings of quality.

The "exemption" is really a legacy of better times, when redundant churches simply did not exist. For Lord Sandford to argue that the Church of England should continue to demolish listed buildings long out of use for worship, without reference

Globe Theatre project

From Mr Ronald Watts

Sir, Bryan Appleyard's piece on the Globe Theatre (September 26) makes clear that the current problem derives from the language utilised in certain agreements with the London Borough of Southwark. At the time those agreements were entered into I was the chairman of that council's planning and development committee.

When I was asked to agree the words "to use best endeavours" to replace the council depot might be used as an Achilles heel by an unsympathetic successor council.

I was advised that relocation would not in fact present any problems and if a successor council adopted an unsympathetic posture the organisation promoting the Globe Theatre would be able to have the agreements enforced by the courts.

But for this advice the relevant language would have been a precise obligation upon the council to relocate the council depot which, contrary to Bryan Appleyard's

description, is by any reckoning quite small.

It should also be made clear that the borough council utilised the land assembly compulsory acquisition powers conferred by the Community Land Act, 1975, having previously entered into the necessary joint venture agreements with those involved in the promotion of the whole scheme, including the Globe Theatre, and endeavours having been made to obtain all the required land by agreement.

Given this background, the position is not so much an "own goal" by the establishment, as claimed by George Nicholson (October 1), who incidentally was, if my memory serves me correctly, at one time a supporting name on the Globe Theatre newspaper, but an unflattering reflection upon the present members and officers of the London Borough of Southwark.

There are remedies open to the Globe Theatre, including those based on the advice given to me, and the Globe Theatre should lose no time in setting them in motion.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD WATTS,
19 Addington Square, SE5.

Gallery extension

From Professor David G. Irwin

Sir, Trafalgar Square is visually a base dominated on its north side by the neo-classical facade of the National Gallery. The site should be used not for an extension which takes "cognizance" of its neighbours (to use Mr Clifford-Taylor's phrase in *The Times* today (October 6) echoing many similar arguments in this controversy), but for an extension that does just the opposite.

This corner needs an aggressive to elected authorities, is to defend an unrealistic anachronism.

The rural dioceses are full of fine buildings preserved by the excellent work of the Redundant Churches Fund, but let those who seek to defend the present arrangements look at the great cities — at London, Manchester, Leeds, and Liverpool, for example — to see how useless the Church can be in pursuit of a cleared site.

Yours sincerely,
KEN POWELL, Secretary,
SAVE Britain's Heritage,
68 Battersea High Street, SW11,
October 3.

assertion of twentieth-century originality, as aggressively of its time as the building by Gibbs in his corner.

James Stirling has recently proved in a German city that the new and the neo-classical can be sensitively juxtaposed together. Why not in London? The National Gallery and St Martin-in-the-Fields could each have been designed *in vacuo*, yet are stylistically so different, yet in situ they work together.

The 1980s could create a comparable (or even better) visual excitement, if we made a bold decision, not a muffled, conservationist compromise.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID IRWIN,
University of Aberdeen,
Department of History of Art,
King's College,
Old Aberdeen,
October 6.

Legal protection for individuals

From Mr Christopher McCall

Sir, In your columns today (October 11) you report the criticism voiced by Lord Gifford, QC, and other barristers whom you declare to be "concerned with civil rights" that the contempt proceedings against Mr Scargill and the NUM are a misuse of the law.

I have no intention of debating the merits of those proceedings. It does seem to me, however, that such a criticism raises three purely general questions which ought to be of vital importance to all concerned with civil rights, particularly those whose concern is as lawyers.

If an individual believes that he has suffered a wrong and issues legal proceedings, should the courts refuse to hear his complaint?

If the individual persuades the courts that, as a matter of law, he has been wronged, should the courts refuse him relief?

To answer "yes" to any of these questions seems to me to remove the ultimate protection for civil rights and it would be good to know that Lord Gifford's criticism does not imply such an answer.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MCCALL,
7 New Square,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
October 11.

No parallel lines

From Mr Simon Jenkins

Sir, Dr Giddings (October 11) should be under no illusions in suggesting that the rail-closure procedure provides a useful model for independent arbitration over pit closures without violating the managerial rights of the Railways Board. It does so, that is.

First, the rail closure procedure relates to what is specifically regarded by Parliament as a social service, not a product like coal.

Second, the procedure most certainly does violate the railway's managerial rights. It places every decision on capacity reduction firmly in the lap of the secretary of state. It is cumbersome beyond belief and impedes the long-term planning of a possibly more decentralized rail network. Heaven preserve the Coal Board from such an innovation.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON JENKINS,
(Part-time member,
British Railways Board),
114 Regents Park Road, NW1,
October 11.

Heroin addicts

From Mr Tom Tuke

Sir, Much attention has been given to the epidemic of heroin addiction now troubling us without enough proposals for cutting off the source of supply.

I suggest that it would concentrate the minds of the Pakistan authorities if the Government were to convene a meeting, like that at Gleneagles, and ensure that sporting links with heroin-producing countries, which are doing us and our children great harm, are treated at least equally to those with South Africa, which do not.

I just cannot understand the apathy with which the national authorities regard the production, processing, marketing and exporting of these substances.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.
TOM TUKE,
Boylehill,
Greysabbey,
Co Down,
October 8.

Sporting friends

From Mr Frank Taylor

Sir, I should be obliged if you would allow me to correct the impression that I am a communist or fellow traveller, which might be derived from your Diary item on September 3. I am a member of any political party.

But I should like to be president of a non-political, non-sectarian, and strictly neutral sporting organization, the Association Internationale de la Presse Sportive.

It has 82 member nations, including China, the United States, the USSR, all European countries east and west, plus many more countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America; is non-political, non-sectarian and has been since it was founded in Paris 60 years ago.

As the first Briton ever to hold this office, I have tried my British best to carry out that tradition of strict neutrality in the seven years I have been president.

Yours sincerely,
FRANK TAYLOR, President,
Association Internationale de la Presse Sportive,
49 Broxbourne Road,
Orpington,
Kent,
October 10.

Post in the past

From Mr Arthur Bond

Sir, You report in *The Times* (October 9) that it is no longer economic to deliver post on foot in Rowley and that the position is the same in nearby Pilsley.

It is many years since it was first decided that delivery on foot in Pilsley was unsatisfactory and the remedy at that time was to provide for delivery by donkey. The public got a better service and the postman, who was my grandfather, got a new "pet": the free use for private use purposes of the postal donkey. And he paid no tax on it.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR BOND,
51 Manor Road,
Wetherby,
West Yorkshire,
October 9.



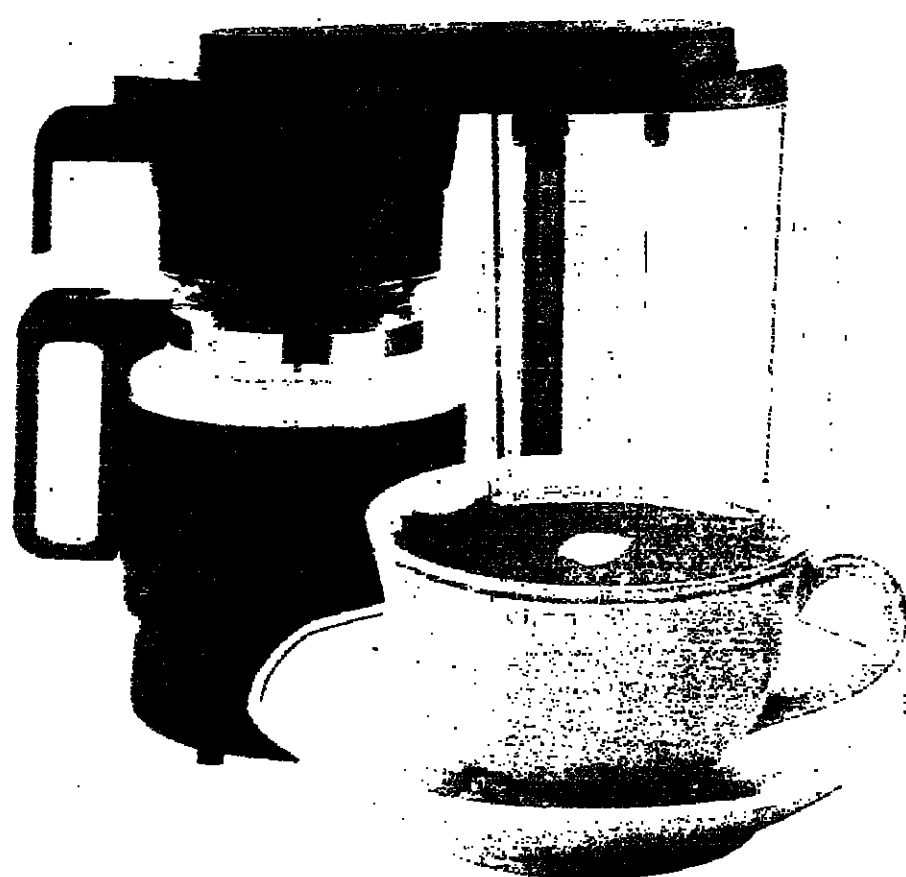
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A SPECIAL REPORT

The new agreement on the future of Hong Kong has been greeted with a variety of emotions, ranging from gloom to elation. Supporters of the agreement hail it as a master stroke of diplomacy, while its critics fear it will mean only a slow death for the 142-year-old territory.

Most, however, have agreed that it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to get a substantially better settlement out of China, especially since the expiry of the New Territories lease in 1997 would have made the rest of the place economically unviable.

The key consideration, as always in Hong Kong, is one of trust, of what Hong Kong people call "confidence" — the magic word which has seen the territory through all kinds of storms and upsets. In the past, "confidence" meant a belief that China would not interfere with Hong Kong in a damaging way.

Now China has dictated its terms and made various concessions, and the confidence is in future required to rest in fulfilment of its obligations under the agreement, which Parliament is expected to ratify before the end of the year.

An encouraging sign is that when China first let its terms be known, not a few of them were exactly what Britain and the Hong Kong community would have wanted: continuation of free port status, international banking and financing with free flow of capital, unrestricted travel in and out of Hong Kong for its residents, retention of the legal system and the liberal way of life, and so on. This indicated that China had finally understood what it had long refused to say publicly: that Hong Kong's style of living and working is attractive and profitable for all concerned.

Now that the tumult and shouting have died, people in Hong Kong and Peking are asking themselves: what was all the fuss about? The Hong Kong dollar has survived and even appreciated on the coat-tails of the greenback. The stock market has not collapsed. There have been no riots on the streets.

If the agreement means an end to excessive building and despoilation of the environment, Hong Kong people should be glad. So why is there still a persistent, somewhat surly unease?

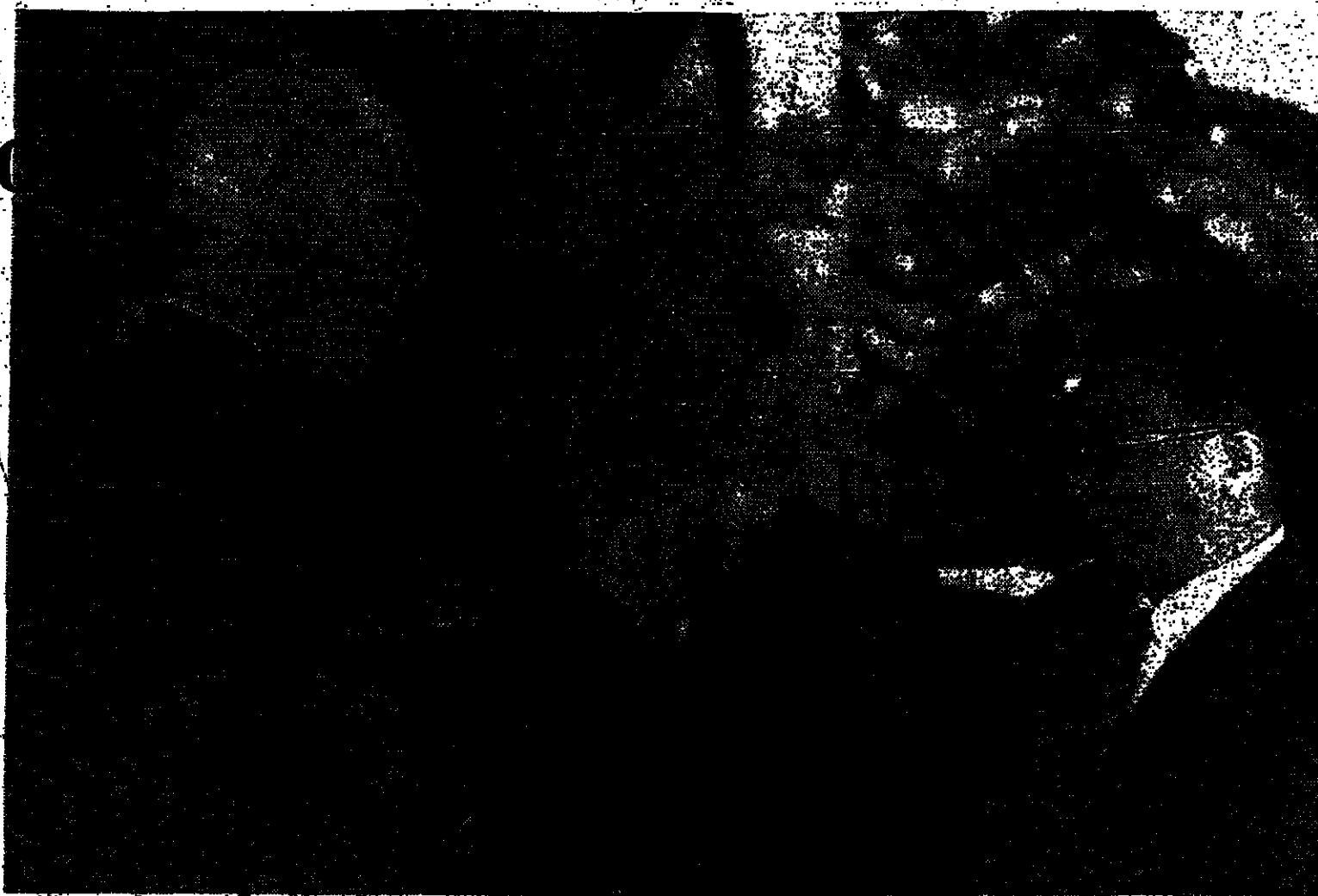
The first reason is the historical experience of promises broken by powerful, totalitarian countries, which are regarded as ruthless, untruthful and relentless in pursuit of their aims.

How could little Hong Kong hope to keep its British-style freedoms once Britain pulls out and the honouring of the agreement is entirely in China's hands? Will it really give Hong Kong 50 years of liberal capitalist society from 1997, or will a future Chinese leadership decide that the agreement is no more than a "scrap of paper" and swallow Hong Kong into its huge socialist maw?

The best reassurance against this is that China in 1997 will still need the money and know-how which it

Hongk

On September 26 the British and Chinese initialled a draft agreement in Peking for the restoration of Hong Kong to China in 1997. This Special Report looks at the state of the colony in the wake of that agreement. David Bonavia, Peking Correspondent, begins by stressing the need for China to fulfil its obligations under the agreement if Hong Kong's prosperity is to last



Here's to the future: Sir Richard Evans, British ambassador, drinks a toast with Chinese officials after the initialling

gets from Hong Kong now. But will it need them as urgently as now, or will there be another upsurge of politically-inspired "do-it-ourselves"?

It is largely up to Britain, the EEC and the United States to involve China in so many international agreements and cooperative efforts in the meantime that it will make no sense for it to try to go it alone again.

In this sense, Britain and the rest of the capitalist world are not powerless to influence China's future attitude towards the agreement. By continuing to invest in Hong Kong, and using it as a base from which to handle investments in, and trade with, China, they can make it more secure.

Though mainland Chinese society and Hong Kong society are still a long way apart, the recent National Day parade in Peking did stress the importance the present Peking leaders attach to consumer goods, food, housing, education and technology — things which share undoubted priority in the minds of Hong Kong people. One of the floats showed people of different ethnic groups standing around a huge and well-stocked refrigerator, which is gradually becoming a common feature in Chinese homes. The onset of anything like affluence will

doubtless be the sign of air conditioning, which are as badly needed in Peking's summer as in Hong Kong's.

Civil rights are a reason for great concern. Amnesty International — by design, no doubt — published its report listing abuses of civil rights in China on the day the Hong Kong agreement was signed. Lawyers and ordinary people will be rightly concerned that the present amateurish and frequently wrongful administration of justice in China should not be extended to Hong Kong.

Despite the introduction of new legal codes in 1980 and since then, most court proceedings in China are similar to those of the Soviet Union, without what a British lawyer would consider nearly sufficient defence of the accused person's rights. The trial of the erstwhile "Gang of Four" was a grim reminder of how socialist justice works when the safeguards are not present or are too weak.

The 15-year sentence on the idealistic young dissident Wei Jingsheng was another reminder that socialist courts will resort to the crudest bullying and vengefulness if a defendant shows any spirit.

Partly as a reaction to the anarchy of the cultural revolution period, the leadership of Deng Xiaoping in-

veighs against "excessive" freedom of speech or demonstration. The rights of assembly and free demonstration, as well as the right to strike, are effectively ruled out by the laws and constitution.

"Counter-revolutionary" activity and propaganda are wide enough categories to cover practically

anything displeasing to the authorities, and Western liberals who admire China should remember that its prisons are full of people accused of nothing more than extra-marital relations.

It is particularly important that China show willingness to stand by its promise to allow Hong Kong resi-

dents freedom of travel, and if they wish, emigration, after 1997. This is the most effective way of reducing the brain drain before then that may prove more damaging to Hong Kong in the long run than outflow of capital, which can come back whenever it sees an advantage.

If they see better advantages for themselves in jobs which are being localised more quickly than would have been the case without the hand-over, a fair number of experienced people may opt to stay on. Career prospects, after all, are not so bright just now in the countries where Chinese emigrants have traditionally gone — Britain, the United States, Canada and Australia.

If people in Britain feel guilty about handing Hong Kong and its nearly six million people over to China, the strength of promises made 13 years in advance, they may as well know that the average man in Hong Kong is not bitter towards the British. Race relations in Hong Kong have always been good for the simple reason that the Chinese regard themselves as the match of anybody, and consider anybody who looks down on them to be merely silly.

The commonest attitude of Chinese people in Hong Kong over

The agreement in brief

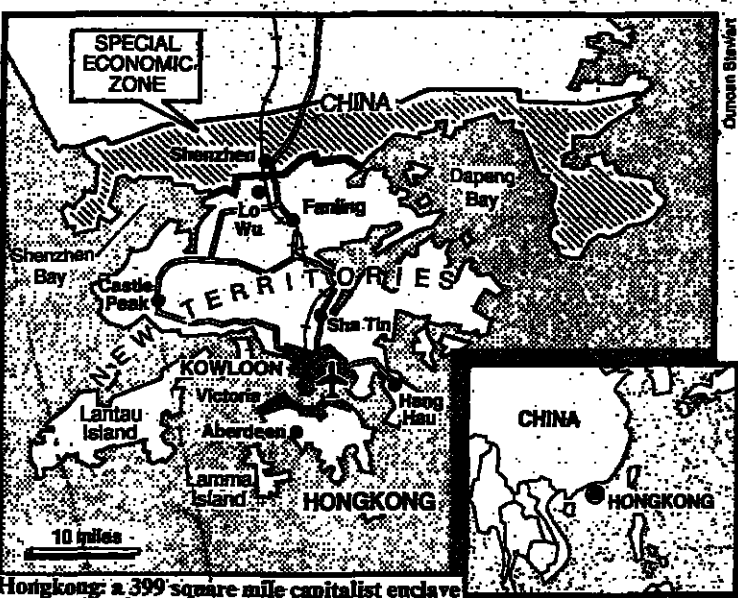
- China will resume sovereignty over Hong Kong from July 1, 1997, and will set up a Hong Kong special administrative region.
- The region will have a high degree of autonomy, except for defence and foreign affairs.
- The region will have executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication. Laws now in force in Hong Kong will remain basically unchanged.
- The regional government will consist of local inhabitants, and the chief executive will be appointed by Peking on the basis of elections and consultations held locally.
- Freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, travel, movement, correspondence, strike, choice of occupation, academic research and religious belief will be ensured by law. Private property, business ownership, right of inheritance and foreign investment will be legally protected.
- The region will remain a free port and a separate customs territory.
- The region will remain an international financial centre, with free flow of capital and a freely convertible currency (the Hong Kong dollar).
- The region will have independent finances and the Chinese government will not levy taxes on it.
- The region may maintain and develop its own economic and cultural relations and conclude agreements with states, regions and international organizations. The regional government may issue travel documents for entry into, and exit from, Hong Kong.

● These basic policies will remain unchanged for 50 years; a Sino-British joint liaison group will be set up to ensure a smooth transfer of government in 1997 and to implement the agreement; the agreement will come into force by June 30, 1985.

the years has been: "We don't particularly like being ruled by foreigners, but it's not the first time in history, and we enjoy certain important advantages as long as it lasts. Anyway, we have always been able to manipulate foreigners who happen to be ruling us. If it's coming to an end now, we shall just have to manipulate the northerners, and that's no novelty either."

If there is one type of person a Cantonese dislikes, it is a high-minded, bureaucratic official from north China, so Peking has been wise to say it will let the people of Hong Kong choose their own leaders (with a right of veto for Peking when it comes to the most senior ones, however). Here, too, China has the chance to demonstrate its sincerity, despite the great disparity between the concept of "elections" under socialism and those in countries with free parliamentary systems.

The Hong Kong government has produced sensible, if cautious, proposals for gradual democratisation, and Peking will be doing itself harm if it merely sits on the fence and grumbles about this, as has been the case so far. All three parties will have to spend the next 13 years decanting the new wine of mutual trust into the old bottles of "confidence".



Hong Kong: a 399 square mile capitalist enclave

ANNOUNCING A BOOMING TRADE PARTNERSHIP

BOOM!

Most business people in the United Kingdom already know that Hong Kong is one of the world's leading exporters.

What some may not realize is that this small, thriving Territory is also a major importer.

Last year for instance, Hong Kong imported close to £16,000 million worth of foreign goods and services from all over the globe.

Britain, being one of our most important trading partners, shared in this multi-million pound bonanza to the record tune of almost £700 million.



Already, in the first six months of 1984 our imports from the U.K. have soared to an all-time high of over £400 million, a 23% increase over the same period in 1983.

The amazing variety of Hong Kong's British imports is staggering in itself. They include everything from the latest Rolls-Royce jet engines to tiny little pots of home-made marmalade, from massive power generators to the finest woollen knitwear garments and much, much more.

As you can see the trading partnership between Hong Kong and Britain is booming and these days, that's good news for all of us.

For more detailed information about doing business with this dynamic city call your nearest HKTDC office. Our service is free — your opportunities unlimited.

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Loss of face on China's road to capitalism

In some ways the Chinese have been as good as their word. Activity in Hongkong by various Chinese official and semi-official trade and industrial bodies has picked up conspicuously over the past 14 months, after pronouncements from Peking that China was interested in investing in the colony. This was a radical departure from Peking's traditional emphasis on attracting investment to China and was taken in the wake of a run on confidence in the future of Hongkong.

The Chinese have expressed interest in setting up factories and going into joint ventures in the territory's industries, ostensibly to show their confidence in Hongkong's economic and political prospects and specifically to absorb local technological expertise. Though these intentions have been much publicized, actual investment has so far been limited to one or two textile finishing and dyeing factories - among these was a US \$5.5 million (about £4.3m) joint venture between China's trading arm in Hongkong, China Resources, and a Hongkong textiles industrialist.

China Resources, in what political observers saw as recognition of the British-based legal system in Hongkong, filed for local incorporation in July 1983 after more than three decades of operation in the

market. The purchase by Sin King enterprises, a China Resources subsidiary, of a 35 per cent equity in a publicly quoted electronics firm, Conic Investment, at a cost of some HK\$178 million, has become an embarrassment. The debt-ridden company turned out to be in worse trouble than the new shareholders had bargained for and, to make matters worse, the chairman, Alex Au, had fled the territory, leaving millions of dollars of debt unaccounted for.

The judgment of investors from China was again called into question when a much-heralded purchase of a residential housing development flopped. This time the deal did not involve China Resources but a relative newcomer, 64-year-old Wang Guangyong, a self-styled capitalist and brother-in-law of Liu Shaoqi, former Chinese head of state. Backed by top Chinese leaders, Mr Wang lost no time in wheeling and dealing. Through his main vehicle, Ever Bright, he became involved in property, tourism, machinery and off-shore oil support services.

Since arriving on the scene last year, Mr Wang has entered into a number of "confidence-boosting" deals, the best known of which was the HK\$1 billion purchase earlier this year of a luxury residential project from a local company, International City Holdings (ICH), chaired by the highly influential property tycoon, Li Ka-shing.

The deal, when it was known, propped up the stock market as punters bought into ICH. A few months later, however, when it came to signing a formal agreement, Mr Wang backed out with his wallet practically intact because, unknown to the public, he was covered by the fine print in the provisional contract. Although he lost little money in this case, Mr Wang lost much face, and the confidence he had been trying to build up suffered a setback.

He was, however, more successful in his trading activities through Ever Bright, which has been importing equipment, second-hand machinery and trucks for various Chinese provinces.

Other recent major Chinese projects include the building of the Bank of China's new headquarters at an estimated cost of HK \$1 billion - the Central site has cost the bank a further HK \$1 billion - and a joint venture by another China Resources-related firm, Hua Ko Electronics, with Hongkong American and Swedish interests, in marketing and installing mobile radio telephones.

Mr Wang estimated that China's total investment would amount to about US \$4 billion, which some analysts reckon is about the same level as United States investment in Hongkong. There are no official or other known statistics on overall investment in the colony, though there have been attempts by various business groups to put a figure on investment by country of origin. Estimates on Chinese involvement in Hongkong differ so widely that they are unreliable.

Elizabeth Cheng
Far Eastern Economic Review

Like a ship making its way unseen at the centre of a storm, Hongkong's economy has been experiencing an export-led boom as the political crisis over the future of the territory beyond 1997 has unfolded.

Supposed barometers of the economy such as the local stockmarket and the exchange rate of the Hongkong dollar have consistently given misleadingly low readings.

There are still major uncertainties over the future of Hongkong beyond 1997, when sovereignty reverts to China, uncertainties which have not been dispelled entirely by the initialling of an agreement on Hongkong by Britain and China at the end of last month. However, underlying economic trends look relatively healthy.

Sir John Brembridge, the financial secretary, spent these out in his mid-year review of the economy on September 14. He contrasted the currently quite strong economic performance with that in 1982, when Hongkong's vital domestic exports declined by 2.5 per cent and the gross domestic product (gdp) grew by only 2.2 per cent.

In that year, too, the property and banking sectors encountered severe problems. An export-led recovery began in the second quarter of 1983, on the back of economic recovery in the US. By this time, however, rising political uncertainty over 1997 and the continued cyclical downturn in the property sector brought about a sharp decline in private sector spending on building and construction. Overall, though, the gdp did manage a real growth of 5.2 per cent in 1983.

Domestic exports

For 1984, Sir John is forecasting a real gdp growth of 8 per cent - up from his earlier forecast of 6 per cent - mainly because of the surprising strength of the US economy and the way in which the high value of the US dollar continues to suck in imports.

The United States is by far and away Hongkong's biggest single market for major export categories such as textiles, toys and electronic goods. A heavy question mark hangs over textiles, however, since Washington introduced much tighter rules-of-origin criteria on textile imports in September 7.

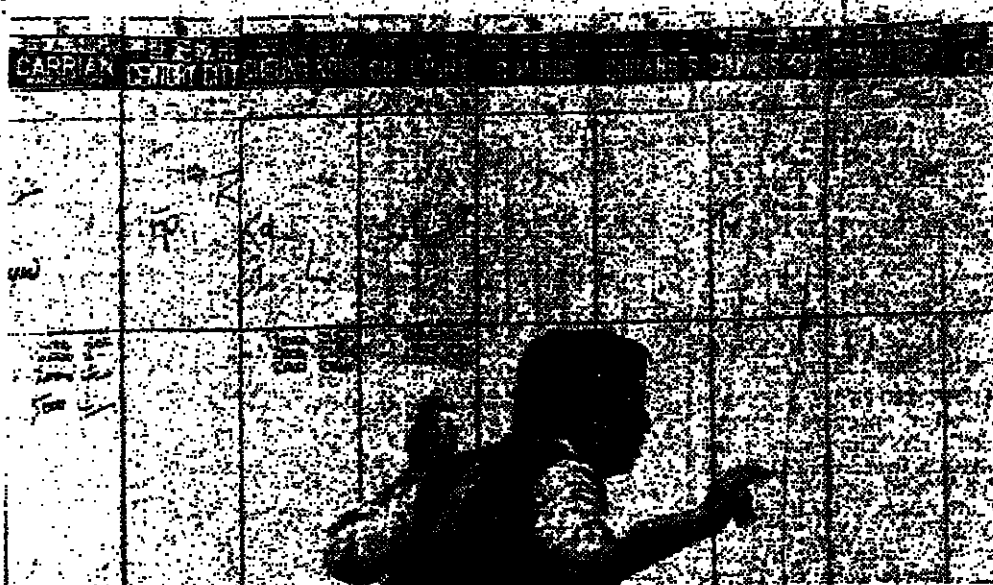
Hongkong's export growth so far this year has been remarkable and, if projections by the IMF and the Gatt of an overall growth in world trade of about 5 per cent this year prove correct, it should continue at a high rate at least until the end of the year.

Domestic exports grew by no less than 45 per cent in nominal terms in the first half of 1984 compared with the first half of 1983, or by 25 per cent in real (inflation-adjusted) terms. Broken down among Hongkong's three largest markets, (the US, Britain and China) domestic exports grew in real terms by 36 per cent, 15 per cent and 57 per cent respectively. Total re-exports rose by 55 per cent in nominal, or 34 per cent in real, terms and imports increased by 39 per cent in nominal, and 19 per cent in real terms.

The visible trade gap (the proportion of the import bill not covered by export earnings) narrowed to 5 per cent in the first half of the year, compared with 12 per cent in the comparable period of last year.

The Hongkong dollar, which last September ended its free-float and was linked to the US

Immediate prospects for trade look good, but doubts about the future are growing



High-speed share dealing on the Hongkong stock exchange. But will investor confidence in the colony evaporate as 1997 draws near?

The big uncertainties

dollar to curb a major crisis of confidence in the currency, has moved upwards but not under the impact of an improved trade balance. It has appreciated by more than 10 per cent since last October on a trade-weighted basis because of being pegged in effect to the US currency.

That, however, has played havoc with local interest rates. The Hongkong Association of Banks, which administers an official cartel on deposit rates, lowered rates no fewer than six times between October 1983 and March 1984, and has since had to revise them up again six times. Volatility has switched from the exchange rate to interest rates as the authorities try to second-guess speculators switching back and forth between Hongkong and US dollars.

With prime lending rate still at 15 per cent, despite a couple of further rate reductions since August, the rate of growth of bank credit (apart from vigorous trade-financing activity) is

naturally limited, and the property market, as Sir John Brembridge put it, remains "torpid".

Local property companies have not only suffered savage write-downs in their portfolios but the biggest of them, Hongkong Land, continues to groan under a huge interest burden while no revenue is expected to accrue from its biggest-ever development, Exchange Square on the waterfront of the business district, until early next year. So interest charges are meanwhile having to be capitalized.

Local interest rates remain strictly at the mercy of those in the US and no one is taking bets on which way the latter are likely to move. Largely as a result of high interest rates, private-sector expenditure on building and construction (as well as developers' margins) are expected to decline further this year.

Even with the offset of increased spending on plant and equipment, financed largely out

of manufacturers' earnings rather than bank loans, and continued government spending on things like housing and the Mass Transit Railway, total gross domestic capital formation is likely to show no growth over 1984 as a whole.

Sir John, however, claims that this is a phenomenon which is not likely to persist in the long term and is therefore not a major cause for serious concern. Others see less cause for optimism unless there is a sustained downturn in US interest rates and a final dissipation of the 1997 jitters in Hongkong.

Inflation, meanwhile, has remained a good deal higher in Hongkong than elsewhere, largely reflecting the dramatic decline in the value of the Hongkong dollar last year. The consumer price index rose on average by some 10 per cent in the first seven months of this year. However, the rate has slowed since January, when it was running at 12.4 per cent, and is expected to moderate still

REAL GROWTH RATES IN GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (PERCENTAGE)

| | 1983 | 1984 Budget forecast | 1984 Revised forecast |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Private consumption | 7.1 | 7 | 8 |
| Government consumption | 2.3 | 5 | 4 |
| Gross fixed capital formation | -2.7 | 3 | 0 |
| Building and construction | -1.5 | 2 | -13 |
| Private | -15.2 | 9 | 4 |
| Public | -15.9 | -2 | -13 |
| Developers' margin | 1 | 6 | 17 |
| Bank and secondary | 14.5 | 12 | 20 |
| Total exports | 14.3 | 10 | 18 |
| Domestic exports | 15.3 | 16 | 25 |
| Re-exports | 3.4 | 11 | 16 |
| Imports | 11.5 | 2 | 7 |
| Exports of services | 5.2 | 6 | 8 |
| Imports of services | 3.6 | 5 | 7 |
| Gross domestic product | 7.4 | 8 | 11 |
| Per capita gdp | 2.1 | 8 | 5 |
| Total final demand | | | |
| Domestic demand | | | |

Source: Hongkong government

further to an annual rate of around 7 per cent by the end of the year.

If the exchange rate can be held at its present level, which means suffering punishingly high interest rates, inflation should continue to decline. Unemployment is running at a low 3.4 per cent and underemployment at just 0.9 per cent. The export-led recovery is helping to maintain a strong position on jobs, even if this exerts some upward pressure on inflation.

Land revenues

Perhaps the biggest uncertainty lies in government revenues. Land sales, traditionally the biggest single element of public revenues, have been almost stagnant and corporate tax revenues have been depressed in the property sector.

Sir John hopes to contain the budget deficit this year within less than the budgeted HK\$2.1bn (about £210m) - not allowing for the proceeds of a recent HK\$1bn bond issue - but he made it very clear in his mid-term review that public spending is going to have to be tightly constrained next year.

Apart from the sluggish level of land sales, there is great

uncertainty over the government's continuing freedom to employ land sale revenues as and when it wishes. China is fearful that the colonial government might try to sell off all available land before 1997 and "do a bunk" with the money, as one official expressed it.

Peking has suggested therefore that at least part of land sale revenues should go into a kind of escrow account for the benefit of the successor administration in Hongkong after 1997. The present administration, which badly needs these revenues to maintain its budgeted capital expenditures, is naturally not keen on this proposal. Without unhindered access to land revenues, Hongkong might have to raise taxes, something which the government is loathe to do. Negotiations continue on this delicate issue.

The external environment remains all-important. Trade represents no less than 163 per cent of Hongkong's gdp and, though exports to China are growing constantly, it is the outlook for trade with the rest of the world which determines ultimate prosperity.

Anthony Rowley

Business Editor

Far Eastern Economic Review

EVERY BUSINESSMAN SHOULD LEARN HIS TWO TIMES TABLE

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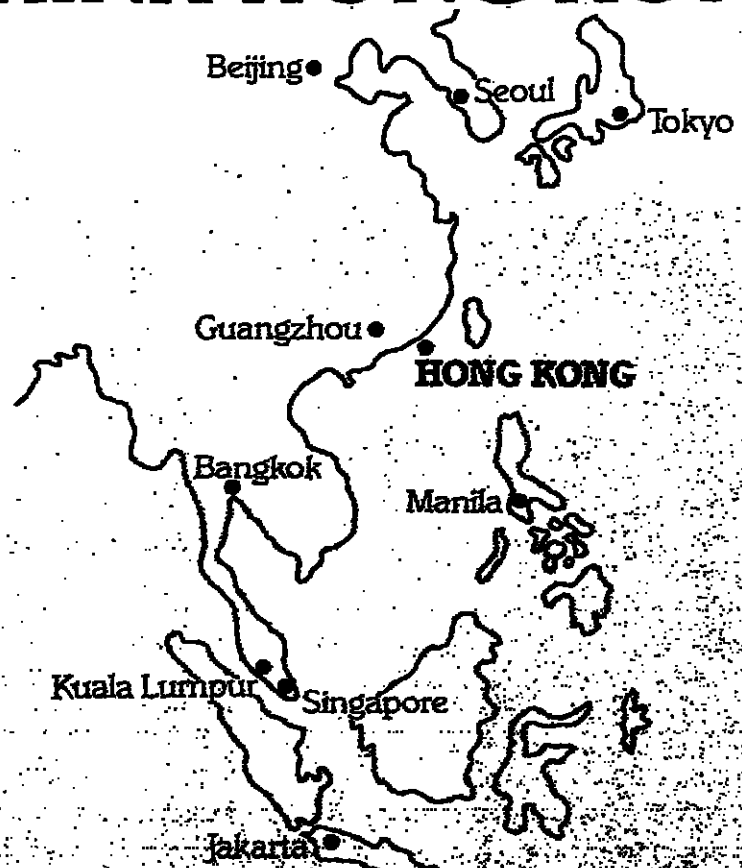
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do business in the Far East.

OF 5 GRADES OF SERVICE

هكذا من الأفضل

Last in and first out of the recession again

In the past two years, as Hongkong has agonized about its future, its dependence on China has grown dramatically and, as China has talked to Britain about a resumption of sovereignty, its dependence on Hongkong has grown in equal proportions.

It has not, however, been an enforced process. Hongkong has not been trying to comfort and reassure. And both have benefited immensely. Nowhere is this growing relationship more graphically shown than in their trade figures.

In the first six months of 1984 China's worldwide exports flourished. With sales of oil, cotton, textiles, corn, rice and soya beans in the forefront, they climbed by 15.4 per cent to reach US \$11.54 billion (about £9 bn). That presages a much larger increase over last year's figures than forecast.

In percentage terms, Hongkong did three times as well. Demonstrating its now traditional ability to be "last in and first out of recession", its factories increased their global sales by 45 per cent to reach HK \$62.64 billion (about £6.2 bn) in the first six months of this year.

Although clothing still represents exactly a third of Hongkong's domestic exports (and grew by 47 per cent in the January-June period), it was the territory's advanced industries which showed really spectacular

growth. Reflecting the way that Hongkong has had to remorselessly upgrade its manufacturing, parts for data processing machines grew by 105 per cent, electric power machinery by 80 per cent, telecommunications equipment by 63 per cent and whole data processing machines by 367 per cent.

Hongkong's trade has been pulled along by the US economy, which takes slightly more than two-fifths of all the colony's exports and five times as much as Britain, its next best customer.

Individually, therefore, and with their totally different exports, Hongkong and China are doing extremely well this year. However, both those performances are put in the shade by the increase in business that they are doing together.

Hongkong's sales to China in the first half of this year increased by 82 per cent to reach HK \$4.53 bn, displacing West Germany as its third best customer. Its purchases from China went up by 51 per cent in that period, to HK \$26.91 bn (more than its total two-way trade with the EEC).

However, it is in Hongkong's entrepôt trade with China - or "reexports", as it classifies it in its trade statistics - that the growing relationship and interdependence between the two is most dramatically demonstrated.

Having fallen by 1 per cent between 1981 and 1982 - hit by the world recession, but more so by the way that China was rethinking how it should advance industrially, having moved away from the "big project" approach - it grew by 52 per cent last year. In the first six months of 1984 it expanded by no less than 139 per cent.

At HK \$10.26 bn, the value of "other people's goods" traded via Hongkong with China was, in six months, worth much more than Hongkong manufacturers sold there last year as a whole (HK \$6.22 bn). To put it another way, that six-month figure equaled Hongkong's combined exports in 1983 to Japan, Holland, France, Switzerland and Sweden, all of which figure prominently among its top 20 markets.

Hongkong's natural deep-water harbour, which made it such an ideal base to trade with a once-reclusive China, remains a great asset, and investment in its container port over the next few years will make it the world's second largest. Interestingly, many products made in both Taiwan and South Korea are being sold into China through these facilities.

Len Dunning, executive director of the Hongkong Trade Development Council, has spent the past two years talking to his counterparts in the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, about how they can cooperate. One of the fruits of those discussions may soon be a link-up between the HKTDC's worldwide computerized trade intelligence network and the Communist export development agency.

"In 1978, China ranked as Hongkong's 37th largest market," Mr Dunning said. "By the following year it had jumped to 15th place. This rapid progress continued and, in 1982, China reached fourth position."

Last year, Hongkong's exports to China amounted to almost US\$800 million, an increase of 64 per cent for the year. If this rapid growth is sustained, it seems likely that, within a year or two, Hongkong could be selling more to China than to any other country except the United States.

John Lawless

TOTAL FOREIGN TRADE (HK\$m)

| | 1983 | %change 1983/82 | Jan-June 1984 | %change 1984/1983 |
|------------------|---------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Domestic exports | 104,405 | +26 | 62,641 | +45 |
| Re-exports | 56,284 | +27 | 37,231 | +55 |
| Imports | 175,442 | +23 | 105,554 | +39 |
| Total trade | 336,131 | +24 | 205,426 | +43 |
| Trade balance | -14,743 | - | -5,682 | - |

REEXPORTS - BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

| | Value (HK\$m) | Share of total reexports (%) | Share of total exports (%) |
|---------|---------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| China | 19,861 | 45.9 | 35.9 |
| Japan | 11,629 | 28.6 | 20.7 |
| US | 9,638 | 31.2 | 18.7 |
| Taiwan | 2,573 | 20.8 | 4.1 |
| Korea | 1,398 | 20.9 | 2.4 |
| Germany | 1,221 | 27.5 | 2.2 |
| Others | 12,769 | 27.2 | 24.5 |
| Total | 56,284 | 32.1 | 16.9 |

TOP MARKETS FOR REEXPORTS 1983

| | Value (HK\$m) | Share of total reexports (%) | Increase over 1982 (%) |
|-----------|---------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| China | 12,183 | 21.3 | +82.4 |
| US | 9,028 | 14.3 | +43.9 |
| Singapore | 4,323 | 8.0 | +24.9 |
| Taiwan | 3,884 | 6.3 | +13.8 |
| Taiwan | 3,454 | 6.1 | +28.9 |
| Japan | 3,176 | 5.0 | +23.1 |

Source: Hongkong Trade Development Council

Tenants moving back to prime sites as the rents slump

The colony's property market is still sagging and it may take another two years before all the top offices are let - and that is after a cutback in new developments

The property market in Hongkong is still right at the bottom of the slump which has affected the colony since the boom of 1978 to 1981 collapsed. The problem is simply one of supply and demand - too much space chasing too few tenants. The uncertainty about the future of Hongkong has had an influence, but the effects are mainly indirect.

The biggest concern over the handover of control to China was how the small print would affect land rights. The Chinese promise that property rights will continue to be protected by law has been reassuring though there are still some worries about possible changes to leases on land sold by the government and previously set at 999 years. But the real difficulty remains that while the Sino-British agreement may prove to be a masterpiece of legislation the market is still badly oversupplied.

According to current estimates, between 2 million and 3 million square feet of "grade A" office space is empty in Hongkong. The property market cannot hope to improve until that vacant space starts to move. In the Kowloon area the market is better, with little first class property available now and the prospect of all prime space being taken up by next March.

Why the rents do not rise

Causeway Bay/Wanchai should also be full by the end of 1985, despite 180,000 sq ft of space developed by Hongkong Land coming on stream. The most difficult area remains Central. Hongkong's central business district, where about 2 million square feet of prime space is available. With an historic annual take-up of around 400,000 sq ft that represents three years' of oversupply.

On top of this, Hongkong Land will add 1.2 million square feet in March when its Exchange Square development becomes available. Under such circumstances rents do not rise.

Exchange Square, probably the biggest office development in Asia, will take two years to let fully. Therefore, the argument runs, by the end of 1986 there will be a "perceived shortage". In other words, although space will still be available, it will not necessarily be in the buildings that potential tenants would put as their first choice.

The postponement of schemes due to be started will also help reduce vacant space to manageable proportions by the end of 1986.

Hongkong Land hopes that the Club will be fully let by the end of this year and that a similar pattern will be repeated when it lets Exchange Square. It is worried that while Exchange Square will prove attractive to international banks and multinational companies, it will merely suck existing tenants out of its other buildings.

So far no-one has taken space in Exchange Square. One Hongkong property expert said: "They need HK\$40, they want HK\$20 but will probably get between HK\$17 and HK\$19 - and wait 12 months for it."

In fact, Hongkong Land should do a little better than that. The Hongkong Club is being let at around HK\$20, including air-conditioning and maintenance. Anyone going into Exchange Square would expect to pay more than that.

The interest shown in the Hongkong Club also illustrates what attracts tenants. The club building has been built to the highest standards and latest technology and is being let at a basic rent of HK\$17.50 exclusive of air conditioning and maintenance. Nearby, the less glamorous Sutherland House is currently almost unlettable at only HK\$12.

Financial institutions account for about 85 per cent of Hongkong Land's tenants in Central, against about 50 per cent five years ago. The difference, according to Jones Lang Wootton, is that then the banks need for space in Central made demand insensitive to rent levels.

Top standards and latest technology

Exchange Square remains an enigma. The development is extremely expensive (HK\$8,200 million), but has the attraction of sitting on the last remaining waterfront site in Central. The building will also include the new unified Hongkong stock exchange, an added bonus, but Hongkong Land is committed to building a third tower by 1989.

There is some doubt as to how long Exchange Square will be the last waterfront site. The Central waterfront has already been moved twice as land has been reclaimed. The Government has carried out a feasibility study to reclaim more land but implementation seems a long way off; there are easier areas to reclaim, such as Wanchai.

JC

The facades may be gleaming in this new development in Tsim Sha Tsui East but the Hongkong property market is in the depths of a slump - with between 2 million and 3 million square feet of top office space empty



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HONGKONG

Politically inert or not, the population must now play its part

Class of '97: the college style of government

Amid the general euphoria over the conclusion of an agreement on Hong Kong's future, one of the most vital topics has received hardly any treatment: the grooming of the territory for eventual self-government.

Ironically, Hong Kong as part of China is planned to be more democratic than it has ever been under Britain. If the provisions of the agreement are strictly adhered to, and it is the colonial administration which has drawn up plans for an unwelcome degree of public participation in elections to the legislature and possibly even to the powerful Executive Council. The draft proposals for the slow democratization of the territory's government were published last July in a Green Paper called *The further development of representative government in Hong Kong*.

This aims to develop the present electoral system, which applies only to the Urban Council and since 1982, to the newly formed District Boards. A structure resembling a lower two-thirds of a pyramid has been achieved by letting some elected members of the Urban Council and District Boards sit on the Legislative Council, which is composed of ex-officio members and unofficial members appointed by the Governor. This has in recent years made it possible for unofficial members to oppose successfully legislation proposed by the government, but on the whole it is a docile body.

Until now there have been no party politics in Hong Kong, the elections being contested by individual public figures in their own right. Both the Hong Kong and Peking governments would look askance at attempts by anyone to establish a two-party or multi-party system, with its inevitable conflicts and, perhaps, abuses.

Muted reaction

The system proposed to be put into effect piecemeal between now and 1997 depends heavily on electoral colleges, representing the economic and professional sectors of Hong Kong society, the Green Paper said. It went on: "Direct elections would run the risk of a swift introduction of adversarial politics, and would introduce an element of instability at a crucial time." China is evidently in agreement with this, and its muted reaction to the Green Paper suggests that even the relatively cautious steps towards self-rule which it contains are considered in

Peking to be over-hasty or downright undesirable.

The Hong Kong government's proposals envisage the election of unofficial members of the Legislative Council by an electoral college of the Urban Council, District Board members, a new "Regional Council" not yet set up, and by "functional groups" of business and professional people. The goal would be to have 24 elected members out of a total of 50, with 16 unofficials appointed by the Governor, and only 10 officials. A more advanced option for 1991 would have 40 elected members, 10 officials and none appointed by the Governor, as against 29 appointed by him at present.

The Executive Council - the main policy-making body - will follow more slowly, if at all, the process of democratization. The Executive Council, chaired by the Governor, has four ex-officio members - the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary, the Attorney General and the Commander British Forces. It is not proposed that this be changed.

Constitution

Under the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region's terms of constitution from 1997 on, the Governor is to be elected or otherwise chosen by the people of Hong Kong, but appointed, that is, confirmed, by the Peking government.

These modest proposals for progressive reform will give the people of Hong Kong a chance to show whether they are really as politically inert as they have often been portrayed, or whether that has merely been a function of the absence of political channels for participation in the past.

David Bonavia

Finance: taking stock of the market

Hong Kong is the world's third most important financial centre after London and New York. It has also emerged as the cheapest. But its ability to maintain this position against other up-and-coming centres such as Tokyo and Singapore depends on a number of factors, not least the colony's political future during the run-up to 1997 and afterwards.

The biggest single change taking place now is the unification of the colony's four stock exchanges into a single unit. By 1986 the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong will have moved into a purpose-built hall in Exchange Square, at about \$280m, probably the most expensive single property development in Asia, if not the world.

The new exchange, first incorporated in 1981, will include the Hong Kong, Far East, Kam Ngan and Kowloon stock exchanges. The Hong Kong is the oldest and provides the basis for the Hang Seng Index of share performance but the Kam Ngan and the Far East are the biggest.

The government believes that a single exchange will be easier to regulate. The new exchange must come into existence before December 31, 1985, although it is likely to be the following year before it begins to trade. The unification will remove some big anomalies - such as the current difficulty of a share being suspended on one exchange but still trading on another.

The unification will also make it easier to implement the tougher regulations which are necessary if the Hong Kong stock market is to maintain world-wide credibility. Since 1981, Mr Robert Fell, Hong Kong's Commissioner for Securities, who was brought in from the London Stock Exchange, has introduced stiffer rules.

These include disclosure of an investment in a company when it passes 34.9 per cent followed by a mandatory bid. This trigger point is high compared with more mature markets such as London but it has established a principle in a market where

local investors have always tended to regard public companies which they started as remaining part of their private domain.

The present system does have some advantages: there is a 24-hour cash settlement procedure and Hong Kong is one of the few places in the world where you can actually see your deals being done.

The passing of the old system will be mourned by many local stockbrokers and investors but, with the four present exchanges all within walking distance of each other, it makes sense to put them in the same building. The new exchange will occupy the first and second levels of the two towers which make up the first phase of the Exchange Square development and will operate in a huge trading hall unfettered by columns. Mr Fell, currently working from the nearby Connaught Centre, will be able to sit directly above the market he oversees.

The unification of the exchange will allow the establish-

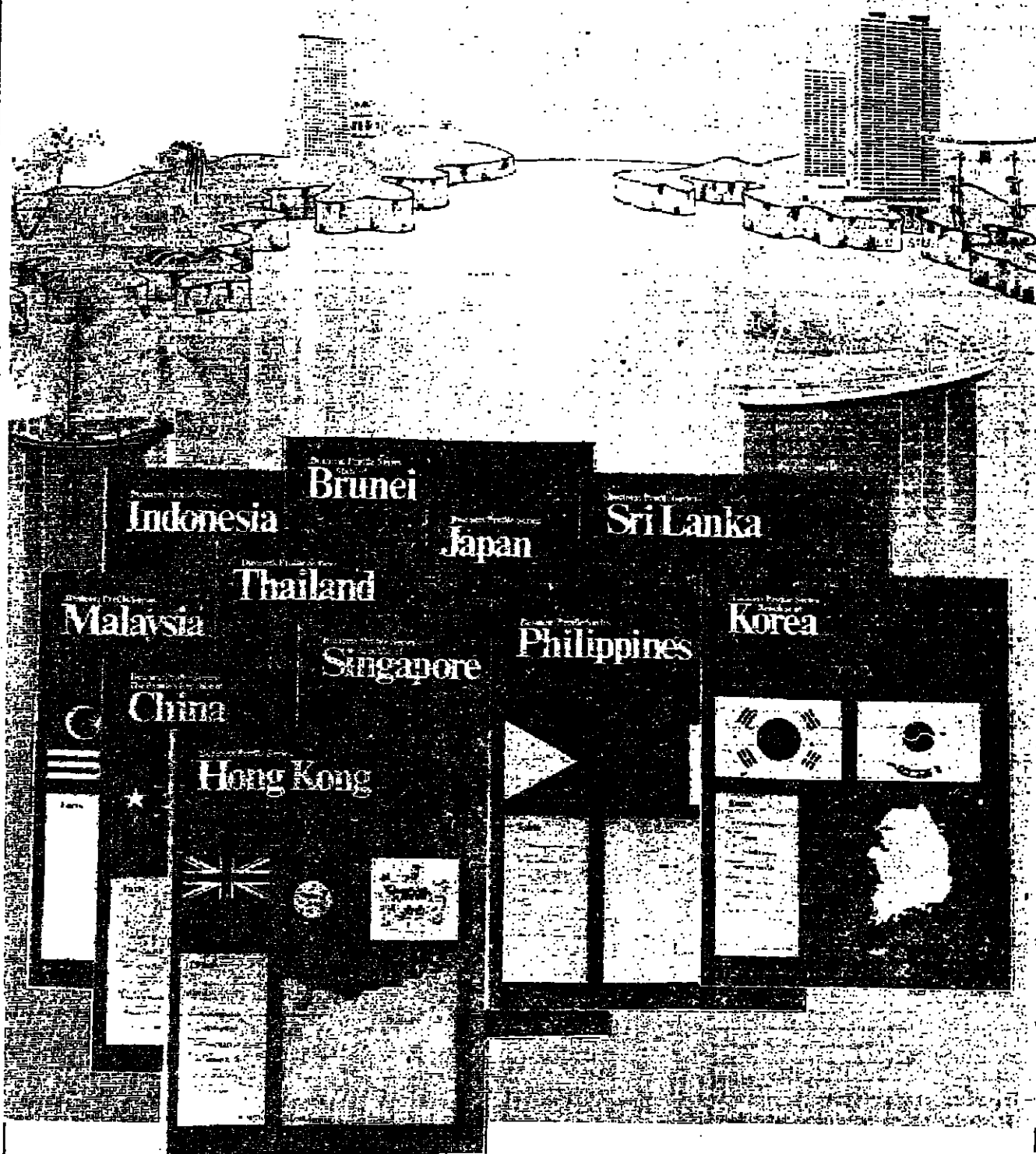
ment of a London-style quotations department, which will ensure fair play in the market and protect investors. The Hong Kong investment community has learned some sobering lessons from the collapse of companies like Conic (subsequently rescued by the Communist Chinese) and Carrian.

However, the creation of regulatory bodies such as a quotations department is only the beginning. Hong Kong needs to promote conventional investment services to help its market mature.

It requires a merchant banking system - Morgan Grenfell recently established a local office - and something similar to the London City Code on takeovers.

Stockbrokers in Hong Kong also need to find a bigger role. Much of the work that their counterparts in London do, such as bringing a company to the market, has remained the province of lawyers.

Jonathan Clare



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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The real threat to the Trident programme

As Mr Michael Heseltine made clear in Brighton on Wednesday, the Government remains committed to the Trident programme which would cost, he said, £9 billion over 20 years. That commitment is unlikely to be shaken by the moral and political arguments of Trident's varied and vociferous opponents. It must, however, come under financial pressure if the pound continues to wilt in the shadow of the US dollar and the problems of public spending become less tractable. Mr Robert Sheldon, the Labour chairman of the Commons Public Accounts Committee, was clear on the point yesterday.

"Trident should be scrapped. But the decision must be taken quickly, before the procurement orders are placed and the cost of cancellation becomes almost as expensive as the project. It is a matter of months," he said. Using Ministry of Defence estimates, Grievson Grant's analysts put Trident's cost now at £9.6 billion - 10 per cent more than the figure of £8.75 billion in the Defence White Paper published in May. The White Paper estimate was struck using a sterling-dollar rate of \$1.53; yesterday the rate was barely above \$1.22. A drop of 20 per cent in the exchange rate boosts Trident's cost, at 1983-84 prices, by about 10 per cent.

It is instructive to compare current with previous estimates of the Trident programme. The 1981 Defence White Paper (Cmd 8212/1-page 14) stated that using mid-1980 prices, a four-submarine force might cost in the region of £5 billion. By 1981, the figure had risen to £7.5 billion; in March of this year, it was put at £8.9 billion. Part of the cost escalation, according to City analysts, can be attributed to the alterations in sourcing.

Initially, about 30 per cent of the work was to be done in the US, with 70 per cent scheduled for Britain. By June this year, the split had become 45-55. Grievson Grant's analysts now estimate that the fall in the sterling-dollar rate has raised the dollar component above 50 per cent.

This swing increases importance of the exchange rate component; it also links the cost of the project with wider macroeconomic issues. The reelection of President Reagan in November on a soft fiscal policy programme would conceivably keep US rates high, and maintain pressure on the pound. Such pressure might become exceptionally acute in the late 1980s when Britain's North Sea oil revenues could peak according to Phillips and Drew, at around £9 billion in 1987-88.

These are the years, according to some estimates of peak Trident expenditure, having risen from £760m (1983-84 prices) in 1986 to £1.1 billion in 1988.

These estimates are based on official figures. Outside estimates paint an even darker financial picture. Mr David Greenwood, of the Centre for Defence Studies at Aberdeen University, who has been consistently sceptical about MoD estimates for Trident, initially put the cost of the programme at £10 billion. In the spring of this year, he upgraded his figure to £11.3 billion without, as he puts it, making much allowance for the inflationary potential of the US defence bureaucracy. Mr Greenwood now tentatively puts the cost at over £12 billion.

New policy wanted at Hambro Life

The interim results of Hambro Life Assurance, published yesterday, show in base relief the effect of Mr Nigel Lawson's decision to remove tax relief from life assurance premiums in his first Budget

last spring. The company admits that the substantial growth of new life business in the first quarter was followed by zero growth in the second quarter and "a significantly lower overall level" in the three months to the end of last month.

Happily for the bottom line, this change matched by a corresponding growth in pensions business. The result is that total premium income was £32m ahead at £256m for the first six months, a pedestrian performance by Hambro Life's traditional standards. New sums assured were actually unchanged at £1.62 billion.

While these figures have been enough to justify an increase in the interim dividend from 4.7p to 5.4p a share, Hambro Life expects the volume of business for the year to be at "a similar level to 1983". Profits business does not incur as much because new pensions business does not incur as much initial commission payment to intermediaries as do life policies.

Hambro Life has patiently suffered more than the more orthodox life companies from the tax change, which has hit unit-linked policies harder than conventional with-profit endowment contracts which have continued to bloom in the mortgage market.

The response of Mr Mark Weinberg, Hambro Life's chairman, is typically positive. He sees "an opportunity to regroup" with the aim of resuming previous rates of growth next year.

While Hambro Life has begun canvassing account holders at selected House of Fraser department stores, it still has a serious policy gap left by the decision not to merge with Charterhouse J. Rothschild, the widespread financial group. The stock market has so far kept faith with Mr Weinberg, but by this time next year, he and his team must come up with a powerful alternative strategy.

Record surplus for tactless Japanese

Market forces do not have the virtue of tact. So Japan has been obliged to record its biggest monthly trade surplus at the height of an American election campaign with heavy protectionist overtones. The September surplus at \$4.49 billion comfortably topped the previous \$4.02 billion peak last June and is almost double the corresponding month last year. It brings the trade surplus for the first six months of the fiscal year to \$17.8 billion (against \$12.7 billion last year) and confirms that Japan is well on the way to a record for the year.

Mr Noboru Takeshita, Japan's Finance Minister, chose yesterday to ponder in public the possibility of further measures to stimulate home demand - not an easy option when public debt service accounts for a quarter of budget revenue. At long last, however, it seems that Japan has become fed up with apologising for its success and has started pointing out the benefits of its combination of high trade surplus and even higher capital exports, or as Mr Takeshita calls them, "capital supplies". "Such capital supplies have helped interest rates in the United States stay at current levels. Had there been no such supplies, they might have been much higher," he said in Tokyo.

Quite so. The US cannot have the capital exports without the product imports. And it is the US rather than Japan that has chosen the combination of a high dollar and too big a budget deficit for domestic savings to finance that has brought this about.

Bank of England confident of Johnson Matthey 'safety net'

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Top-level discussions were continuing in the City yesterday on the £100m package of indemnities which the Bank of England is trying to put together to back up the rescue of Johnson Matthey Bankers.

The Bank of England appears confident that the package will be achieved reasonably soon and it was being stressed yesterday that the idea was agreed in principle.

However, the banking community has been grumbling about being asked to put money at risk to rescue JMB and the clearers among others have been haggling over the size of contributions and various other elements.

The clearing banks were refusing to comment yesterday. The indemnity package ap-

pears to be confined to British banks with the London and Scottish clearers and at least one other big British bank being asked to make the biggest contribution £20m to £50m. The negotiations between the Bank of England and the banks on the package are being viewed in some quarters as a test of the Bank of England's "moral authority" over the City.

One undercurrent in the negotiations appears to be lingering resentment among the clearing banks at the buffeting they have received in recent Budgets, first with the windfall profits tax and this year with the ending of capital allowances.

Some bankers believe the Bank of England should have done more to protect the

| The JMB safety net (£m) | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Bullion dealers | 30 |
| Top merchant banks | 10 |
| Clearing banks | 20-50 |
| Bank of England | 10 |
| The Target | 100 |

interests of the clearers. One clearing banker said yesterday that this had made the banks more hawkish in dealing with officialdom.

Even the accepting houses, which have traditionally been very close to the Bank of England, agreed to a provisional contribution of £10m with considerable reluctance.

Many merchant banks recognize the importance of pulling together to help protect the wider interests of the City. But there was considerable unhappiness about having to contribute

when many had nothing to do with JMB and there are believed to have been forthright discussions between the accepting houses and the Bank of England before the contribution was agreed.

Many bankers who have been asked to stump up towards the indemnities are still uncertain about the degree of risk they are assuming. The official view appears to be that the indemnities will be called only as a last resort to cover provisions needed on JMB's commercial loan portfolio of about £450m if the present capital of about £170m is swallowed up.

The Bank of England is still examining the loan portfolio.

However, some bankers are under the impression that their indemnities are very likely to be called.

DM bond for Beecham

Beecham, the pharmaceutical and household products group, has become the first British company to make an international Deutsche mark issue under its own name.

The DM 200m (£52.8m) offer will be floated on the Euro-DM market with a coupon of 7½ per cent and a 10 year maturity. It is priced at par.

The company said that the DM funds are being raised for general financing of its sizable West German operations. Beecham has pharmaceutical, toiletry and cosmetic businesses in Germany. In the year to March 31, 1984, European operations outside Britain contributed operating profits of £71.8m to the group total of £280m.

Beecham has used the provisions of the last Finance Act and the quick by which Euro-DM funding is cheaper than domestic German borrowing to cut its costs.

Lead manager of Beecham's issue is Commerzbank, with Hill Samuel, Credit Suisse First Boston, Deutsche Bank, Dresdner Bank, and Goldman Sachs International in the management group.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1141.3 up 4.8 (high 1141.7; low 1136.2)
FT Index: 870.6 up 3.8
FT All Share: 537.15 down 2.17
Bargains: 18,768
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 103.72 up 0.33
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1180.65 up 3.4; Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 10,696.86 up 28.15
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 979.78 down 3.35

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling Index 76.3 unchanged (range 75.7-76.3)
\$1.2285 down 15pts
DM 3.8025 up 0.0025
FF 11.6450 down 0.0025
Yen 304.75 unchanged
Dollar Index 142.9 unchanged
DM 3.0820 down 0.0070
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2270
Dollar DM 3.0942
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.589215
SDR £0.58740

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10½
Finance houses base rate 11
Discount market loans week fix 10½-10½
3 month interbank 10½-10½
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11½-11½
3 month DM 5½-5½
3 month FF 11½-11½

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
am \$338.10 pm \$338.10
close \$339.00 - \$339.50 (£276.00 - £276.50)
New York (latest): \$339.30
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$349.00 - \$350.50 (£284.50 - £285.50)
Sovereigns (new):
\$80.00 - \$81.00 (£61.25 - £62.00)
Excludes VAT

NY selling pulls dollar back after strong day

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

The dollar, after trading strongly for most of the day in Europe, fell back sharply yesterday as a result of a large commercial selling order from New York. Dealers said the threat of central bank intervention still overshadowed the dollar and that there was uncertainty ahead of a number of important US economic statistics.

The dollar traded at around DM 3.11 for most of the day in Europe, before being pulled back to DM 3.09 after the New York selling. It closed in London at DM 3.092, down 70 points on the day.

Sterling gained against the dollar towards the close but was still 15 points down on the day at \$1.2285. The sterling index was unchanged at 76.3.

Today's US retail sales figures, together with industrial output, housing starts, real income and GNP data next week, are keenly awaited by the foreign exchange markets. They should provide a stronger indication of whether the US economy is slowing down.

The "flash" estimate for third quarter US GNP showed an annualized rise of 3.6 per cent. The preliminary estimate, due next Friday, may show a downward revision to about 3 per cent.

The key Fed Funds rate in the US has been weak recently, and it was about 10½ per cent yesterday. Currency economist, Mr David Morrison at Simon & Co. said that if the rate continues low next week it could indicate an easing of policy by the Federal Reserve at the October Federal Open Market Committee meeting.

The London money markets appear to have decided that the next base rate cut by the publication of the October money supply figures in early November. Yesterday, the 3-month interbank rate closed at 10½-10½.

Gold is still trading in response to dollar and dollar interest rate movements, but there are some signs that the link is not as close as it appeared earlier in the year.

Yesterday's closing London price of \$339 an ounce, just \$2 down on the start of the week, partly reflected fundamental physical demand.

Boardroom changes at Horizon Travel

By Derek Harris Commercial Editor

In boardroom changes at Horizon Travel, Britain's third largest tour operator, which recently turned down takeover approaches from Grand Metropolitan, Mr Bob Muckleston, aged 51, has moved up to become group chief executive. Until now this job was combined with the chairmanship and held by Mr Bruce Tanner, who now becomes group executive chairman.

While Mr Muckleston ran Orion, Horizon's airline, the Horizon Holidays tours operation was in the hands of Mr Ken Franklin, who, like Mr Muckleston, was a joint deputy chief executive of the group as well as managing director of the holidays division.

Mr Franklin, aged 47, becomes deputy chief executive and chairman of Horizon Holidays as well as its managing director. Mr Muckleston becomes chairman of Orion and "for the present", will remain its managing director, a company statement said.

Mr Tanner said that his dual role responsibility had become increasingly difficult as Horizon had grown massively in the last 10 years and was a considerably more complicated group.

Orion is now one of the top



Bruce Tanner, Chairman of Horizon Travel

half-dozen British charter airlines, with 11 aircraft. Horizon is also developing its hotels division.

Mr Muckleston, who has an accounting background, has built up Orion from scratch after joining the company in 1978 from Britannia Airways, part of the Thomson travel group.

The boardroom changes come after Horizon reported losses in the first half. In August, Mr Tanner warned that Horizon was unlikely in the full year to match the previous year's £12.6m pre-tax. The City has been expecting profits of £10.5m following a late summer season recovery in holiday demand.

Tax evader pays \$200m

New York (Agencies) - The Marc Rich companies agreed yesterday to pay the US Government about \$200m (£162.6m) in fines and interest to settle the biggest tax evasion case in American history.

But criminal charges against Marc Rich, a Swiss oil trader, and his partner, Pinchas Green, remain. A Federal court in New York was told by the US Attorney for Manhattan

Judge Shirley Kram accepted the settlement stemming from illegal oil trading by Marc Rich and company A.G. of Switzerland and its US subsidiary, Marc Rich and Company International Ltd.

The settlement includes \$150m in back taxes, \$21m in fines already paid for failure to produce company documents, plus interest on back taxes.

Tempus, page 23

NEWS IN BRIEF

Attwoods in \$24m US takeover

Attwoods, the waste disposal group, announced pre-tax profits of £1.7m (£1m) for the year to July. Turnover rose from £9.7m to £10.3m. Final dividend 2.5p a share, making 4.5p (2.33p). The company is buying Industrial Waste Service of Florida for \$24m (£19.2m) and making a rights issue of two for one at 80p. Tempus, page 23

A £40m debenture issue by Mough Estates is seen by the company as opportunistic re-financing. The money is being used to re-finance the £40m syndicated loan raised in 1981 which is not due for repayment until 1986/1988 but Slough considers the time is right to switch medium term variable debt for long term fixed interest finance in the shape of corporate bonds. The gross redemption yield on the first mortgage debenture, payable in 2019, will be 0.95 per cent above reference gilt.

Ward White, the shoe retailer and manufacturer, has reported pre-tax profits for the half year to July 31 of £3.2m up from £2.2m. Turnover increased from £79.3m to £91.4m. The board has proposed an interim dividend of 694p against 1.54p last time. Tempus, page 23

Cope Allman pays out £209,000

By Jonathan Clare

Two former executive directors of Cope Allman International, the fruit machines, packaging and engineering group, have been given "golden handshakes" totalling £209,000. The payment was shared between Mr Louis Manson, the former chairman and Dr Bill Cameron who resigned last

December. The payments are revealed in the latest annual report from Cope but do not distinguish the amount paid to each. However, Mr Manson is understood to have received the greater share.

Mr Manson stood down last year after Cope fought off a £24m bid from the Dowable consortium which included Mr David Wickins and Mr Michael

Ashcroft. Mr Ashcroft now sits on the board as chairman, representing a stake of more than 40 per cent. He is a Midwestern Canadian investment vehicle set up by him and Mr Wickins.

The annual report also shows that Mr Ashcroft was paid nothing for sitting in the chair for the past year.

Harvard looks for £1.9m cash - and a Stock Exchange quote

By Derek Pais

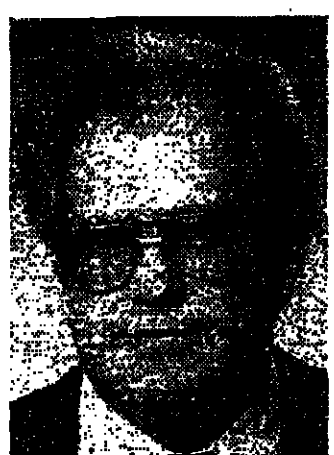
One day, perhaps, Harvard Securities will enjoy a Stock Exchange share quote. In the meantime it will have to be content with a rather more mundane presence on the booming over-the-counter market it has done so much to create.

Yesterday, in the ornate surroundings of the Sugar Room at the old Whitbread brewery in the City, it announced its intention to offer investors five million shares at 42p each to realize £1.9m. All the cash will go into the company.

It was a high-profile presentation, hosted by the TV personality Mr Michael Barratt.

But even the experienced Mr Barratt could not entirely obliterate the disappointment that Harvard, dating back to 1973 with profits of £1.250,000 expected for the year just ended, was a mere o-t-c stock traded on the City's fringe share market or, as some call it, a share bazaar.

Mr Tom Wilmot, aged 37,



Tom Wilmot: 37 per cent stakeholder

Harvard's guiding light, has often spoken about obtaining a stock market quote. Now he says that an o-t-c quote "is much faster as far as we are concerned". A full stock market listing is now, he hopes, set for next year. In the meantime an American o-t-c presence could be obtained.

Harvard, a controversial company which has had many a brush with the establishment of the Stock Exchange, sees itself as a significant influence in the great financial shake-up. It could soon link with a stock broker.

The o-t-c markets are still on the edge of the City but their growth cannot be denied. Harvard makes a market in 53 stocks and has another 13 new issues due in the next five months.

Stock market reform, combined with the explosive growth of the o-t-c markets indicates that the two cannot be divorced for much longer. There is already talk of the o-t-c becoming a second division market for the Stock Exchange's own second division, the USM.

After the flotation Mr Wilmot, insured for £1.5m, will have a 37 per cent shareholding. Harvard's Canadian founder, Mr Morton Glickman, who intends to take more interest in the German share market, will have 24 per cent.

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Interest is payable annually in arrears on 15th October in each year, the first such payment being due on 15th October, 1985.

Particulars of the Bonds and Warrants are available in the statistical services of Extel Statistical Services Limited and may be obtained during usual business hours up to and including 25th October, 1984 from the Brokers to the issue:

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YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Buy-outs: Governor spies problems

By Derek Harris

Rapid growth in management buy-outs is running up against obstacles despite the willingness by institutions to invest in them. The warning came this week from Robin Leigh-Pemberton, governor of the Bank of England, when he joined many other financial and industrial leaders at the fourth birthday celebrations of Cander Investments which specialises in management buy-outs.

The governor highlighted two problems: lack sometimes of an essential entrepreneurial spirit in a subsidiary eager to leave the wing of a big company and the reluctance of many large groups to sell subsidiaries. A subsidiary was often retained when

it was outside the mainstream of the main company's business and unable to obtain development capital. Yet given independence it could improve its performance and find the right financing to the advantage of all concerned, Mr Leigh-Pemberton pointed out.

He said: "Much remains to be done to encourage companies to sell off subsidiaries where this would be of advantage to managers, employees, vendor companies and the economy overall. The reluctance of companies to sell subsidiaries is the belief that selling subsidiaries is an admission of failure, the amount of management time taken up in such transactions and the lack of clear overall strategies." Financial insti-

tutions could help with the management time problem but the pressure should be on to achieve a clear strategy, he added.

The governor struck a note of optimism about Britain's seemingly inexorable slide to the bottom of the industrial pile. He believed attitudes were perceptibly changing, with a growing realisation that there was an open window to some immense opportunities through scientific and technological developments. He said: "We have for long shown a lack of individual enterprise and risk-taking, but I see many signs that we are at last giving more head-room to initiative." But, he warned, the window of opportunity would not be open indefinitely.

Alan Clernight

Tyne floats a success

As part of state-owned Tyne Ship-repairs, Readheads of South Shields, founded in 1863, closed in October 1982. But Readheads Ship-repairs opened a year later in the same place, financed with the redundancy money of 80 men who once worked there. Now, quite a few problems have been solved and the yard is looking good for the 200-strong workforce.

Readheads offers no-strikes, no overtime bans, sensible flexibility and demarcation is dead, even at board level. Jack Richardson, the 46-year-old managing director, often dons overalls. The five-man board has already seen turnover reach £2m after ten months—twice the target figure for the first full year.

There are "A" shares for those who put up the original cash and "B" shares for other workers who want to subscribe.

When Readheads closed the workers set up a cooperative with "lots of talk and little action" until Harry Low, a former commercial manager who is now chairman



Readheads' shipwright director John Loes (left), electrician director Jim Todd and managing director Jack Richardson like what they see on the Tyne.

suggested a management team. Richardson is not a Readheads man, but knew its family spirit.

British Shipbuilders, claims Richardson, wanted an unrealistic price for the yard. But the Tory manifesto encouraging workers' participation was on their side and so Richardson and his team talked to the Minister of State for Industry, Norman Lamont. A television documentary highlighting their difficulties was a help. And when Graham Day took over British Shipbuilders the atmosphere changed.

The crunch came when Richardson asked his workers for £100,000 in a trust account — and received

£110,000. They are buying the yard over seven years and financing themselves from the £110,000 plus the revenue from completed jobs.

Break-even was planned at the end of 15 months' trading; now it is looking like a year.

Once there are profits a third will go to the workers in bonuses, a third to the shareholders and a third will be used for re-investment.

Most workers earn the market rate but executives, who earn more, are still paid anything between 25 and 50 per cent below what they might command elsewhere. "I hope this will be adjusted", says Richardson.

BRIEFING

MR FRIDAY Ken Ryne

This weekend Skitchley Cleaners is recruiting drive for franchisees after its decision, announced earlier this week, to expand, initially in Lancashire and Yorkshire, by franchising the Skitchley dry-cleaning operation, Darsk Harris writes.

Skitchley hopes to have the first franchisee in business early next year, with six franchisees likely to be allocated during 1985. Another 12 are likely to be on offer the following year, 20 more in the next 12 months. With additional franchising growth planned further north, the franchise chain could eventually go to 100.

Total investment for each outlet is likely to be about £24,000, of which a franchisee will be expected to put up £20,000. There should be no difficulty in getting the finance, as banks such as National Westminster and Barclays which specialise in franchise financing. Skitchley may be prepared to take on some freeholds or leaseholds of premises. The cleaner operations are expected to take three years to reach full sales potential. Then sales are expected to be running at other than £121,000 a year, from which Skitchley take 10 per cent in royalties with 40

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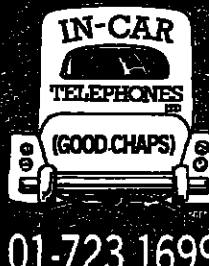
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APPOINTMENTS

New marketing chief at Charterhouse

Charterhouse Development: Mr Paul Brooks has been appointed director of marketing of the development capital subsidiary of Charterhouse J. Rothschild.

National Commercial & Glyn's (NC&G): Mr H. E. Farley, executive director of Williams & Glyn's Bank with responsibility for domestic banking, marketing and credit control has joined the board.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation: Mr T. Welsh is to retire in the spring of 1985. Mr R. C. Farrell will take up the position of executive director in London. Mr M. W. Wells will become a general manager and will move to London at the turn of the year where he will assume responsibility for the day to day operations of the bank.

Business in the Community: Lord Carr (Prudential Assurance) has been appointed chairman.

Quilter Goodson & Co: the following become partners of the firm: Mr Alan Coats, Mr Hugh Fergie, Mr Tim Ladden, Mr Richard Legge, Mr Nigel Lloyd, Miss Jane Roskill, Mr Peter Smith, Mr Chris Watkins, and Mr David Williams.

United Biscuits: Mr James Prior MP is to rejoin the board with effect from November 13. He had previously been a director of the company from 1974 to 1979.

Touch Ross & Co: Professor Sir James Ball, chairman of the Legal & General Group and

former principal of the London Business School, has been appointed economic adviser to the firm.

The Littlewoods Organization: Mr William Humbley has been appointed as group management services director with effect from November 1.

Municipal Insurance Group: Mr L. L. Parkin, group general manager will retire on December 31. He will be succeeded on January 1, next year by Mr A. R. M. Maclean, the present deputy group general manager. On the same date, Mr K. Black, at present deputy manager, will become general manager and deputy to Mr Maclean.

Hick Hargreaves & Co: Mr Julian Masters has been appointed managing director. Gavin Anderson & Co: Mr George Welham, formerly managing director of Hill and Knowlton (City), had been made managing director.

European Banking Group: Mr W. A. Blackwell, Mr P. J. M. Baker, Mr R. C. Johnson and D. R. Mitchell have been made managing directors, and Mr J. A. Cox, Mr B. Hobson, Mr G. M. Skinner and Mr G. R. J. Wadia, become executive directors.

Granada Group: Mr Derek Lewis will shortly be joining the board as financial director. Glaxo Holdings: Mr B. D. Taylor will become a director from November 1. He will continue as chairman and managing director of Glaxo Pharmaceuticals.

WALL STREET

Wall Street prices opened higher yesterday in active early trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average, which rose 2.10 to 1,177.23 on Wednesday, was ahead 1.32 to 1,178.55 shortly after the market opened.

Advances led declines 535-280. Early turnover amounted to about 6,944,000 shares.

FTT was down 1-2 to 29-1/2. Scott & Fetzer was up 1-4 to 55-1/2. General Electric was down 1-4 to 54-1/2. Rabermain was down 1-8 to 39

3-8. McDonnell Douglas was ahead 1-1/8 to 67-1/2. Tektronix was off 3-8 to 55-5/8 and AT & T was up 1-8 to 18-5/8.

Brokers said Wednesday's finish was so strong that it carried over into the first part of yesterday's session. Things could get better if IBM posts favourable third-quarter earnings.

Some analysts believe IBM's report could influence the market for the rest of the year. Federal Funds traded at 10-3/8 per cent in the early going.

| Company | Price | Change | Company | Price | Change |
|-------------------|---------|--------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| IBM | 54 1/2 | -1/4 | General Electric | 54 1/2 | -1/4 |
| AT & T | 18 5/8 | +1/8 | McDonnell Douglas | 67 1/2 | +1/8 |
| Boeing | 78 1/2 | +1/2 | Rockwell International | 48 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Lockheed | 112 1/2 | +1/2 | Northrop | 52 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Grumman | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Westinghouse | 38 1/2 | +1/2 |
| General Motors | 38 1/2 | +1/2 | Ford | 28 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Chrysler | 28 1/2 | +1/2 | Stellantis | 28 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Exxon | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Amoco | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Shell | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | BP | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| British Petroleum | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Esso | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Unilever | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Procter & Gamble | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Johnson & Johnson | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Pfizer | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Merck | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Bayer | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Novartis | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Roche | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Glaxo | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | SmithKline Beecham | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Wellcome | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Glaxo Wellcome | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Novartis | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Roche | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Glaxo | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | SmithKline Beecham | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |
| Wellcome | 42 1/2 | +1/2 | Glaxo Wellcome | 42 1/2 | +1/2 |

OLYMPIC GAMES: MODERN PENTATHLON PROBED

Drug takers slip through Los Angeles loophole

By Michael Coleman

Blatant drug taking allowed at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles has embittered officials and competitors from Britain and other countries trying to stamp out drugs abuse.

"What sort of encouragement is this for the rest of us who stick to the rules?" asked Richard Phelps, who finished fourth in the modern pentathlon at the Games.

It is now revealed that a number of his rivals were taking a class of depressant drugs known to steady shooting arms. They will not be disqualified.

Beta-blockers are banned worldwide by the shooting and modern pentathlon authorities, but some teams exploited a chink in the Olympic regulations. According to Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the International Olympic Committee's medical commission, it was agreed just before the 1984 Games that if competitors produced a doctor's letter saying they needed to take beta-blockers for health reasons, they would not be disqualified, should drug checks prove positive.

Prior to Los Angeles, beta-blockers were not on the IOC list of proscribed drugs and substances. The list had been drawn up two years earlier.

Beta-blockers slow the heart-beat drastically. They are used by people with heart complaints, to reduce blood pressure, to ease hypertension.

"Several of the doping control checks made at the modern pentathlon contest did prove positive. But, to our surprise, managers came forward with doctor's certificates covering whole teams," the Prince told me from Brussels. "There were three or four countries."

Because of this, they will not be recommended for disqualification when the IOC executive board meets in Mexico on November 7 to 8.

Who were the athletes and countries involved? Neither the Prince nor other sports and medical officials questioned at Lausanne, London and Brussels were prepared to tell me.

Colonel Willy Grut, secretary-general of the UIPMB, the world body governing modern pentathlon, is challenging the IOC to publicize the names of the athletes whose drug tests proved positive at Los Angeles. "They clearly took dope, not for medical reasons, but to improve their performance," he told me from France.

"If they are now coming forward with medical papers claiming health reasons, then they are liars."

Just before the contest in Los Angeles, I asked all the team managers at a meeting whether or not any of their athletes had high blood pressure or hypertension. "I asked each country in alphabetical order. They all said: No."

"If they are now producing medical papers, that is a damn lie - a pretext, an after-construction as we would say in Sweden. I ask you, is it likely



Richard Phelps: aggrieved straight shooter

that a coach does not know that one of his team suffers from a heart disease? The answer must be no."

He said he had written to the Prince on September 3 and again last week demanding a full disclosure. The winner of the gold medal for the modern pentathlon at the 1984 Games in London, Grut plans to report to the next meeting of the UIPMB in Monte Carlo on October 29 to 30. "There must be no cover-up," he said.

"Drug-taking must be rooted out."

The "health reasons" ploy has amazed many competitors. "How can they expect us to believe that these people have a heart complaint and yet still be active sportsmen?" Sarah Parker, a leading British competitor, asked. "You can't. Only an Olympian gold medal if you're dead."

The names of six more competitors in other sports at Los Angeles whose urine samples proved positive are being forwarded to the Mexico meeting of the IOC. They can expect disqualification and other sanctions. This will bring to 11 the total number of drug offenders at Los Angeles, compared with seven at Munich in 1972, eight at Montreal in 1976 and none at the Moscow Games in 1980.

The medal winners

Phelps, from Gloucester, for whom shooting has always proved his Achilles heel, shot 184 (out of 200) on the pistol range. A score of 185 would have earned him 22 more points and a bronze medal; a score of 188 - by no means high these days - would have secured the gold. His team colleagues, Stephen Sowerby and Michael Mansford, shot 191 and 190 respectively.

The top six positions in the modern pentathlon at Los Angeles were: 1, Daniele Masala (Italy) 5469 pts; 2, Svante Rasmussen (Sweden) 5456; 3, Ciro Masullo (Italy) 5406; 4, Richard Phelps (GB) 5391; 5, Michael Storn (USA) 5325; 6, Paul Four (France) 5267. Italy was the team contest winner, followed by France, Switzerland finished a surprising fourth.

RUGBY UNION

Letter of law fouls up spirit of game Cheltenham end their losing run

By Gerald Davies

When all is said and done, and Wales, as far as rugby is concerned, cannot all be said, nor is it ever likely to be completely correct, the laws of the game still need some revision. They are an inexhaustible source of debate.

One of the strongest arguments against rugby becoming a professional sport - if such an unlikely proposal as was made last year should come to pass - is that the laws of the game remain for inequitable and too difficult for maintaining the degree of uniformity that such status would demand. The best professional sports are those in which a clearer sense of purpose and intent leaves little room for doubt. Rugby, on the other hand, remains full of grey areas.

Two recent games are indicative of the problem. In the match between Pontypool and Swansea which 10 days ago, 43 penalties were awarded. Last Wednesday, when Bridgend met Cardiff, there were 37. And yet in a match at the end of last season between Bridgend and Llanelli, with the same applying, Clive Norling, who is not averse to bringing his authority to bear on a game, awarded only six.

The existence of such discrepancies reflects not so much on the referee or the players but rather in laws, where technical infringements are seen to be on a par with foul play.

There are laws which contrive to frustrate player and spectator alike. That a knock-on can result in a penalty if it is deemed to be deliberate is nonsensical. And shoulder-high tackles are penalized regardless of whether they are dangerous or not.

The tackle law remains the most unsatisfactory part of the game. The tackled and the tackled man are often subject to an unfair interpretation.

The smoother tackle, with the tackler inadvertently falling over, as a result of his momentum, on the wrong side, can be penalized. And the tackled man can be punished for not releasing the ball when he may be hindered from doing so by the nature of that kind of tackle.

It goes against the spirit of the game, too, if the tackled man, brought down to one knee, say, is not allowed to pass the ball so as to continue the attack, but is forced to release it, placing the ball on the ground; the phrase "to deliver the ball immediately" could be a substitute for the word "release".

Although the notes to the laws suggest that if the referee is in doubt, a scrum should be awarded, invariably a penalty is given. Such a law continues to frustrate rather than advance the claim of rugby to being a handling game.

Norling maintains that there is little divergence in interpretation of the laws but that there is a substantial difference in their application.

Brain takes chance

Steve Brain, capped by England on the tour of South Africa last summer, has decided to continue playing despite a persistent knee tendon injury which requires an operation. Brain, who plays for the Dublin Wanderers team, is due to play against the Australian team at Twickenham on October 17.

The teams had already played half a dozen matches against Argentine sides, despite legislation being forbidding sports contacts with South Africa. The players entered the country on tourist visas.

One team had already left yesterday for Chile, but was due to return to Argentina on October 18. In the meantime, the Argentine side would be refused to the second XV.

Julio Millan, assistant director of the Argentine Immigration office, said: "If they return they will be expelled immediately."

Orwin on parade

John Orwin, the Gloucester captain, has turned down a chance to represent Gloucestershire. Orwin, an RAF corporal stationed at Brize Norton in Oxfordshire, was wanted by Gloucestershire to meet Somerset on October 27 and also by the Combined Services to play the Australians at Aldershot on the same day.

"Really, as the Combined Services are in effect my employers, I felt I had no option but to stick with them," said Orwin. "They have asked me to captain a side against the Australians and I have agreed although I will be very sorry to miss the game with Somerset, which could well be the highlight of this season's County Championship."

S Africans not welcome

Buenos Aires (AFP) - The Argentine foreign ministry cancelled the visas of two South African rugby teams on Wednesday, quoting United Nations resolutions against apartheid as the basis of their action.

The teams had already played half a dozen matches against Argentine sides, despite legislation being forbidding sports contacts with South Africa. The players entered the country on tourist visas.

India should sleep easily

By Michael Stevenson

One of the oldest school fixtures, that between Cheltenham and Rugby, ended last Saturday in a 1-0 victory for Cheltenham, through tries by Vinesstock and Cox and a penalty from Vinesstock.

This was the first time that Rugby have been defeated in this fixture for 12 years.

After a couple of early wins against Marlborough and Whitefriars, Cheltenham had succumbed to Downside and Warwick for whom Meadows scored two tries and Linford one. Davis relaying with a try and Tucker with a penalty.

There were other famous and successful rugby schools who met their opponents during the past week. Millfield were beaten 10-0 by Gwent and Bradford one of the strongest sides in the country, followed their narrow victory over West Park (who had not lost a school match since March 1982) with a 2-0 win against Seabrook.

The packs were well-matched, but the Seabrook side had a slight edge in the set pieces. Geoff Wappell, Bradford's master in charge, described the contest as "a 100 miles per hour, 100 yards race".

Peter Wappell, Bradford's captain, said: "We were very happy to win and Seabrook's fly-half replied with a penalty."

Another notable scalp, that of Sherborne, fell on Tuesday to Cheltenham College, who won 9-0, relying considerably on their scrum back row of Peart, Cole and G. Davies and their captain and hooker, Lewis, who contributed a conversion and a penalty. A try by their scrum half, Griffin, settled the issue.

Cowley, over the past decade one of the outstanding rugby schools in the land, met formidable opposition in Belmont Abbey, losing 15-3. A hint of lack of mobility in the Belmont pack is counteracted by a mobile and hard-working back row, which includes a promising No. 8, Riley, who is 6ft 6in, and able halves, Wheeler and Vaughan, who direct a fast and enterprising back division.

Belmont scored all their points in the first half through three penalties and a conversion from Vaughan, and a try from Watson, their captain and flanker. Honey kicked Cowley's second-half penalty.

Belmont's neighbours, King's Worcester, enjoyed their fourth win in succession when they defeated Warwick, 17-3. King's points came from tries by Wilkins and Preston, who also contributed a conversion and a penalty. May was credited with Warwick's push-over try.

Bromsgrove are still going well, winning 18-6, at Worcester, comfortably defeating Oakham 16-3 on Tuesday Royal Grammar School, Lancaster are still unbeaten, their most recent victory, 12-10, being against Stonyhurst.

CRICKET

Australians were rude say Indian players

Bombay (AFP) - The Indian cricket board of control (BCCI) has lodged a strong protest with the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) over "the utterances and behaviour" of members of the Australian team who ended a short tour last week.

Indian press reports say that Australian players were repeatedly rude to photographers at a BCCI luncheon in their honour here. Allan Border, the tour vice-captain, was also quoted as saying the BCCI officials should be "taken up and shot one by one" in an apparent reference to the board's handling of the tour arrangements. Fred Bennett, chairman of ACB, said yesterday that he had discussed the matter with A. W. Karmachar, secretary of BCCI, on Wednesday.

Australia won the five limited-over matches series, 3-0, but one of the games, at Jamshedpur, was reduced to a farce when both sets of kit failed to turn up in time.

The Indian board paid the ACB a guarantee of \$75,000 (\$50,000) plus expenses should be "taken up and shot one by one" in an apparent reference to the board's handling of the tour arrangements. Fred Bennett, chairman of ACB, said yesterday that he had discussed the matter with A. W. Karmachar, secretary of BCCI, on Wednesday.

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Warrington's only problem is that their home court, the Spectrum Arena, is already booked on October 31, the date of the first leg, so they may ask the Italians, who are due to stage the second leg on November 7, to switch.

Figure 1. The effect of the concentration of the *Agrobacterium* suspension on the transformation efficiency of *Agrobacterium* strains.

Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.00 **Celestial AM.**
6.30 **Breakfast Time** with Selina Scott and Nick Rose. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.59; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choices at 6.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.15 and 8.15; gardening hints at 7.32 and Selina Scott's last report from the Western Isles.

8.00 **Under the Sea.** In praise of Brown Boats and Whorries. The last in the series (1).

8.15 **Conservative Party.** Conference 1984. Coverage of the final day's proceedings. Reporting from Brighton are Sir Robin Day and David MacLennan. 10.30 **Play School.** presented by Iain Lauchlan (1). 10.50 **Conservative Party.** Conference 1984. Further coverage from Brighton. 12.00 **Celestial.**

3.00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Maura Stuart. The weather details come from Michael Fish. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.

3.30 **Pebble Mill** at One. Marion Coster is at Grosvenor House to hand over the Pebble Mill Heritage Tapestry to the Duchess of Devonshire. 1.30 **Little Misses and the Mister Men.**

4.00 **The American Vice-Presidential Candidates Debate.** Vice-president George Bush and the pretender to his position, Geraldine Ferraro, in a debate from Philadelphia.

4.25 **Conservative Party.** Conference 1984. The Prime Minister's speech to the Conference.

4.50 **approximately Cartoon Time.** 3.48 **Regional News** (not London). 3.50 **Play School.** presented by Wayne Jackman. 4.10 **The Family-Ness.** Adventures of a group of monsters who live in Loch Ness. 4.15 **Beat the Teacher.** Inter-school quiz competition. 4.30 **Benji** and the Alien Prince. The story of a visitor from outer space.

4.55 **Heartbeat** presented by Tony Hart and Liza Brown. 5.15 **Crackerjack.** 5.58 **Weather.** News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell.

6.00 **London Plus.** **Cartoon.** Tom and Jerry in Mouse in Manhattan. **5.15** **Match of the Day.** Jimmy Hill is at White Hart Lane for the game between Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool. The commentator is Barry Davies.

5.30 **News With John Humphrys.** **The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin.** A repeat episode of the comedy series in tribute to the late Leonard Rossiter.

6.00 **Film: The Formula (1980)** starring George C. Scott, Marlon Brando and Martha Keller. The first of a thriller about a Los Angeles detective's investigations into the murder of initially, a friend and former colleague. When the friend's wife is also killed the detective discovers a trail that leads to the Los Angeles Sheriff and the mysterious General project based on a secret formula for synthetic fuel developed by the Nazis during the Second World War. Directed by John G. Avildsen. News headlines.

6.15 **The Hollywood Greats.** Barry Norman introduces a profile of John Wayne. With clips from a number of his films. The contributions from his family and friends, among them President Reagan, Clark Gable and his secretary, Pat Stacy (1).

6.30 **Weather.**

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Jayne Irving and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.45 and 7.47; angling news at 6.45; exercises at 8.45 and 9.20; the weekend's best buys at 8.45; coping with bereavement at 9.06.

TV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames News headlines.** 9.30 **For Schools:** Children prepare for an outing. 8.47 **How we used to live.** 10.08 **Dental care.** 10.28 **The constituency work of an MP.** 10.48 **Physics:** the velocity of radio waves. 11.05 **A trip to a supermarket and a covered shopping precinct.** 11.22 **Part three of The Sea Green Man.** 11.39 **Italy in the mid-Thirties.**

12.00 **Gideon.** Cartoon adventures of a dingo (1). 12.10 **Reinbow.** Learning with Puppets (Oracle). 12.30 **Make It Pay.** The series on money-making hobbies continues with advice on jewellery making.

1.00 **News One** with Leonard Parkin. 1.10 **Thames news.** 1.30 **Film: Raffles (1940)** starring David Niven and Olivia de Havilland. Lighthearted romance about the society of the 1920s. Directed by Henry King. 1.50 **Thames news.**

3.00 **That's My Dog.** Quiz game for canines and their owners. 3.25 **Thames news headlines.** 3.30 **Sons and Daughters.**

4.00 **Rainbow.** A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10. 4.20 **Tower.** 4.25 **Inspector Gadget** visits the haunted castle. 4.50 **Time to Time.** John Hirt takes another trip back in time to discover how our ancestors coped with everyday life (Oracle). 5.15 **Blockbusters.**

5.45 **News.** 6.00 **The 6 O'Clock Show.** Michael Aspel and his team lift the lid on the lighter side of London life. 6.15 **Film: A Christmas Carol (1983)** starring Michael Vincent, Ernest Borgnine and Alex Cord. A made-for-television plot film for a new series that begins next week. Airwolf is an advanced and almost irrefutable combat helicopter that has been stolen from the United States by the Libyans. The CIA approach a Vietnam war pilot and his associate to recover the valuable aircraft. Directed by Donald P. Burtis (Oracle).

8.30 **We Love TV** introduced by Gloria Hunniford. A test of television knowledge between celebrities Michele Dotrice and Edward Woodward and members of the public. Denis Barber and Cathy Hinton. Others appearing include Clive Dunn and Don Estelle (Oracle).

9.00 **Match.** The Fleet Street crime reporter investigates the shooting of a postman during a raid on a hospital ward delivery (Oracle).

10.00 **News at Ten.** 10.30 **The Making of Modern London.** The first programme of the series and Gavin Weightman examines how a number of London boroughs were able to create miniature welfare states during the Twenties and Thirties.

11.00 **Darts.** First round action in the MFI World Matchplay Championship, from The Fulcrum, Slough.

12.00 **Around the World.** Chat show presented by Aubrey Wagh and Janet Street-Porter. The guests are Ken Livingstone, the Rev Donald Reeves, Peter Marsh and Leigh Bowery.

12.45 **Rock Concert.** Heavy metal band Vardis.

1.40 **Night Thoughts.**



Terence Wright and Joseph Cotton: BBC 2, 11.45pm

BBC 2

9.00 **Celestial.** **9.30** **Daytime on Two:** Chemists at work. 9.52 **Episode four of Badger Girl.** 10.15 **Maths:** fractions. 10.38 **The 21st.** Why we need it, how it was designed and how it is used. 11.00 **History:** the function of knights and castles. 11.22 **The changing skyline of Glasgow since the Second World War.** 11.44 **Working with your hands.** 12.05 **Part four of the series on computers for beginners.**

12.30 **Electronic Office:** The New York Times. 12.55 **Britain's economic performance since the Industrial Revolution.** 1.30 **For moderately mentally handicapped young adults.** 1.30 **In the heart of the Scottish highlands.** 2.00 **A drama documentary about the Yukon poet, Robert Service.** 2.30 **Part three of Strathclyde Delaney's A Taste of Honey.**

3.00 **Racing from Ascot.** Julian Wilson introduces coverage of three races - the Buxton Stakes (3.10); the Duke of Edinburgh Stakes (3.40); and the Ever Stakes (4.10). 4.25 **Delaney.** In his plan to find out who is the most famous mole in his office (1). (Celestial).

5.10 **Three Monks.** An animated film made by the Shanghai Animation Film Studio (1).

5.30 **News summary** with subtitles. 5.35 **Inside Women's Magazine.** Part four of the five-part programme tracing the history of women's magazines and dealing with feminism and femininity (1).

6.00 **The Invaders.** Science fiction serial starring Roy Thinnes. The CIA approach a Vietnam war pilot and his associate to recover the valuable aircraft. Directed by Donald P. Burtis (Oracle).

6.50 **100 Great Sporting Moments.** Australian Ron Clarke running in the three mile event of the 1965 AAA Championships.

7.05 **Best of Brass '84.** The third first round contest finds the Midlands champions, Bedford Colliery Doves Band playing against the Welsh champions, Part and Dare Band.

7.40 **The World About Us: Sport.** Fishing Down Under. Malcolm Florence fishing in the waters surrounding the Great Barrier Reef and on Lake Peddie in Tasmania (1).

8.30 **Gardeners' World.** Geoff Hamilton and Roy Lancaster at the six-year round garden of Pat and Michael Edwards in Abington, Wolverhampton.

9.00 **M*A*S*H.** The first of a new series of black comedies about the staff of the 4077th.

9.25 **Freud.** Part five of the six-episode dramatization of the life of the celebrated psychoanalyst. (Celestial).

10.25 **Jack High.** The semi-finals of the Gateway Matters Bowls Tournament.

10.55 **Newsnight** includes an appraisal of the Prime Minister's speech at the Conservative Party Conference in Brighton.

● With one more episode to go, **Freud (BBC 2, 9.25pm)** continues to be what it conspicuously was when it began five weeks ago: a brave and almost totally successful attempt to externalise the internal. Either you are hooked on it by now or you never will be. Whether you are sympathetic to Freud's theories is another matter entirely. What you have to decide is whether these excursions into the subconscious might have been better listened to (a. on radio) than looked at (i.e. on television). Tonight's episode, which brings Jung on to the stage in the unconvincing shape of Michael Pennington and reinforces him with a powerful company of Freud adherents, is uncongenially talkative and complex. If it is pictures you want, pretty or otherwise, I advise you to try another channel tonight. If you want to look and think, I advise you to stay with *Freud*.

CHOICE

● It is of secondary importance that, of all his films, Hitchcock selected **SHADOW OF A DOUBT** (BBC 2, 11.45pm) as his favourite. Of far greater relevance, for the viewer, is the fact that it was among the best-written of all the Hitchcock canon. In this connection, I should remind you that the notion of the dialogue was passed by Thornton Wilder, the distinguished American dramatist whose plays included *Our Town* and *The Skin of Our Teeth*. When Hitchcock decided the screenplay needed some flecks of humour, he got Sally Benson, author of *Meanie* in St Louis to provide them. It was a wise decision. *Meet Me in St Louis* was

CHANNEL 4

9.30 **Conservatives '84.** Low Gardner and Brian Shroogers report from Brighton on the last day of the Conservative Party Conference. Ends at 12.00.

2.15 **Conservatives '84.** The US Presidential Election Debates. It is the vice-presidential candidates' turn and George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro question each other's domestic and foreign policies.

5.00 **The Addams Family.** Lurch, the ghoulish family's butler, is smitten by an old school friend of Morticia's.

5.30 **The Tube.** The second programme of the new series presented by Joos Holland, Paula Yates and Muriel Gray. There are the latest video, bands and news. Plus music from guests including Bronski Beat, Hanoi Rocks, Sheila E and Level 42.

7.00 **Channel Four News** with Peter Selous. Includes report on the Prime Minister's speech to the Conservative Party Conference.

7.30 **Right to Reply.** Scotland's Story producer Tom Steel is accused of making the series too upper crust, wooden and unrepresentative.

8.00 **A Week in Politics** examines the conflict between the miners and the law and asks "Is political consensus breaking down?". Among those in the studio is Jack Taylor, president of the Yorkshire miners.

8.40 **Lulu's World.** The first of four humorous documentaries purporting to be a Russian's eye view of today's London. In this programme the intrepid Lulu Graciovskaya "visits what he believes are the fashionable centres of the capital - Kings Road and the Hippodrome, accompanied by his constant minder, Ludmila.

9.00 **Tell the Truth.** Panel game presented by Graeme Garden. Sue Arnold, Gyles Brandstetter, Libby Purves and James Whitaker are given the task of discovering which of three people is telling the truth.

9.30 **In Search of Paradise.** The fourth programme in the series tracing the history of gardens examines gardens of the Renaissance. The programme visits Ron's Villa Medici, the botanical gardens of Padua, and the grounds of the Villa d'Este (1).

10.00 **Reggie.** American version of the successful Reginald Perrin comedy series starring the late Leonard Rossiter.

10.30 **Good for Thought.** This week's edition of the food programme examines the contents labels on tins and packages.

11.20 **Film: Zardoz (1973)** starring Sean Connery and Charlotte Rampling. Science fiction drama set in the year 2253 in which Connery plays a wasteland-living Extremist who decides to invade the land of the elite. Directed by John Boorman.

Radio 4

On long wave. 1 denotes stereo as VHF. 5.25 **Sunday News.** 6.00 **9.00** **9.25** **Farming Today.** 9.55 **Prayer for the Day.** 10.00 **Today.** 10.05 **9.30, 7.30, 8.30.** 10.05 **News.** 10.15 **Weather.** 10.20 **9.00 News.** 10.25 **8.25 Sport.** 7.45 **Thought for the Day.** 8.45 **The Awakening by Ken Chinn.** 9.00 **Weather.** 9.05 **Desert Island Disc.** The castaway is jazz musician John Surman (1).

9.45 **Footlights.** 10.00 **News.** 10.05 **International Asylum.** 10.30 **Morning Show.** "From 5 to 6" by Jane Henley. Read by Sean Barrett.

10.45 **Daily Service (MEM, page 57).** 11.00 **News.** 11.05 **Travel.** Analysis examines the nuclear 'star wars' scenario (1).

11.48 **Natural Selection.** Part Morris on the feet of animals - and man. 12.00 **News.** 12.05 **You and Yours.** Consumer advice. 12.27 **Part of the Form.** General news. 12.55 **News.** 1.00 **11.15** **News.** 1.20 **11.30** **News.** 1.35 **11.45** **News.** 1.50 **12.00** **News.** 1.55 **12.05** **News.** 1.55 **12.15** **News.** 1.55 **12.25** **News.** 1.55 **12.35** **News.** 1.55 **12.45** **News.** 1.55 **12.55** **News.** 1.55 **1.00** **1.05** **1.10** **1.15** **1.20** **1.25** **1.30** **1.35** **1.40** **1.45** **1.50** **1.55** **2.00** **2.05** **2.10** **2.15** **2.20** **2.25** **2.30** **2.35** **2.40** **2.45** **2.50** **2.55** **3.00** **3.05** **3.10** **3.15** **3.20** **3.25** **3.30** **3.35** **3.40** **3.45** **3.50** **3.55** **4.00** **4.05** **4.10** **4.15** **4.20** **4.25** **4.30** **4.35** **4.40** **4.45** **4.50** **4.55** **5.00** **5.05** **5.10** **5.15** **5.20** **5.25** **5.30** **5.35** **5.40** **5.45** **5.50** **5.55** **6.00** **6.05** **6.10** **6.15** **6.20** **6.25** **6.30** **6.35** **6.40** **6.45** **6.50** **6.55** **7.00** **7.05** **7.10** **7.15** **7.20** **7.25** **7.30** **7.35** **7.40** **7.45** **7.50** **7.55** **8.00** **8.05** **8.10** **8.15** **8.20** **8.25** **8.30** **8.35** **8.40** **8.45** **8.50** **8.55** **9.00** **9.05** **9.10** **9.15** **9.20** **9.25** **9.30** **9.35** **9.40** **9.45** **9.50** **9.55** **10.00** **10.05** **10.10** **10.15** **10.20** **10.25** **10.30** **10.35** **10.40** **10.45** **10.50** **10.55** **11.00** **11.05** **11.10** **11.15** **11.20** **11.25** **11.30** **11.35** **11.40** **11.45** **11.50** **11.55** **12.00** **12.05** **12.10** **12.15** **12.20** **12.25** **12.30** **12.35** **12.40** **12.45** **12.50** **12.55** **1.00** **1.05** **1.10** **1.15** **1.20** **1.25** **1.30** **1.35** **1.40** **1.45** **1.50** **1.55** **2.00** **2.05** **2.10** **2.15** **2.20** **2.25** **2.30** **2.35** **2.40** **2.45** **2.50** **2.55** **3.00** **3.05** **3.10** **3.15** **3.20** **3.25** **3.30** **3.35** **3.40** **3.45** **3.50** **3.55** **4.00** **4.05** **4.10** **4.15** **4.20** **4.25** **4.30** **4.35** **4.40** **4.45** **4.50** **4.55** **5.00** **5.05** **5.10** **5.15** **5.20** **5.25** **5.30** **5.35** **5.40** **5.45** **5.50** **5.55** **6.00** **6.05** **6.10** **6.15** **6.20** **6.25** **6.30** **6.35** **6.40** **6.45** **6.50** **6.55** **7.00** **7.05** **7.10** **7.15** **7.20** **7.25** **7.30** **7.35** **7.40** **7.45** **7.50** **7.55** **8.00** **8.05** **8.10** **8.15** **8.20** **8.25** **8.30** **8.35** **8.40** **8.45** **8.50** **8.55** **9.00** **9.05** **9.10** **9.15** **9.20** **9.25** **9.30** **9.35** **9.40** **9.45** **9.50** **9.55** **10.00** **10.05** **10.10** **10.15** **10.20** **10.25** **10.30** **10.35** **10.40** **10.45** **10.50** **10.55** **11.00** **11.05** **11.10** **11.15** **11.20** **11.25** **11.30** **11.35** **11.40** **11.45** **11.50** **11.55** **12.00** **12.05** **12.10** **12.15** **12.20** **12.25** **12.30** **12.35** **12.40** **12.45** **12.50** **12.55** **1.00** **1.05** **1.10** **1.15** **1.20** **1.25** **1.30** **1.35** **1.40** **1.45** **1.50** **1.55** **2.00** **2.05** **2.10** **2.15** **2.20** **2.25** **2.30** **2.35** **2.40** **2.45** **2.50** **2.55** **3.00** **3.05** **3.10** **3.15** **3.20** **3.25** **3.30** **3.35** **3.40** **3.45** **3.50** **3.55** **4.00** **4.05** **4.10** **4.15** **4.20** **4.25** **4.30** **4.35** **4.40** **4.45** **4.50** **4.55** **5.00** **5.05** **5.10** **5.15** **5.20** **5.25** **5.30** **5.35** **5.40** **5.45** **5.50** **5.55** **6.00** **6.05** **6.10** **6.15** **6.20** **6.25** **6.30** **6.35** **6.40** **6.45** **6.50** **6.55** **7.00** **7.05** **7.10** **7.15** **7.20** **7.25** **7.30** **7.35** **7.40** **7.45** **7.50** **7.55** **8.00** **8.05** **8.10** **8.15** **8.20** **8.25** **8.30** **8.35** **8.40** **8.45** **8.50** **8.55** **9.00** **9.05** **9.10** **9.15** **9.20** **9.25** **9.30** **9.35** **9.40** **9.45** **9.50** **9.55** **10.00** **10.05** **10.10** **10.15** **10.20** **10.25** **10.30** **10.35** **10.40** **10.45** **10.50** **10.55** **11.00** **11.05** **11.10** **11.15** **11.20** **11.25** **11.30** **11.35** **11.40** **11.45** **11.50** **11.55** **12.00** **12.05** **12.10** **12.15** **12.20** **12.25** **12.30** **12.35** **12.40** **12.45** **12.50** **12.55** **1.00** **1.05** **1.10** **1.15** **1.20** **1.25** **1.30** **1.35** **1.40** **1.45** **1.50** **1.55** **2.00** **2.05** **2.10** **2.15** **2.20** **2.25** **2.30** **2.35** **2.40** **2.45** **2.50** **2.55** **3.00** **3.05** **3.10** **3.15** **3.20** **3.25** **3.30** **3.35** **3.40** **3.45**

Lord Shinwell reflects on his first 100 years

By Alan Hamilton

He was born in another age, when Victoria had 17 years still to reign and Gordon was defending Khartoum against the Mahdi. He arrived in a world in which Gladstone was promoting a Bill to give the vote to every household, when it seemed that the glorious summer of 19th century England would never end.

If age brings honour, Lord Shinwell - Emanuel Shinwell as was - is our most honoured parliamentarian. Next Thursday, he achieves his century.

Even now, retirement is a word with little meaning to him. He intends to mark his first 100 years with an address from the floor of the House, the first time that a centenarian will have done so in a chamber that is light on youth.

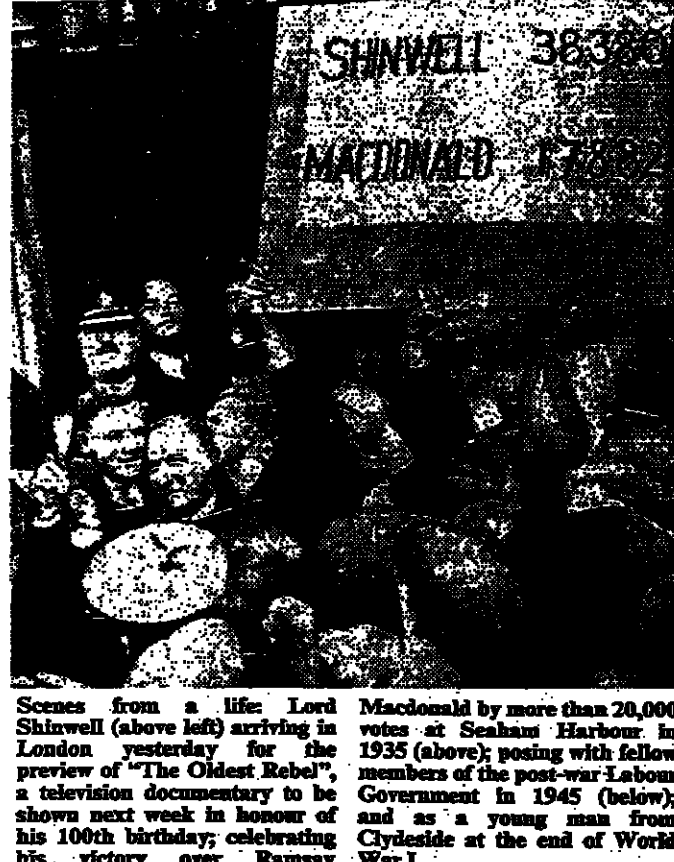
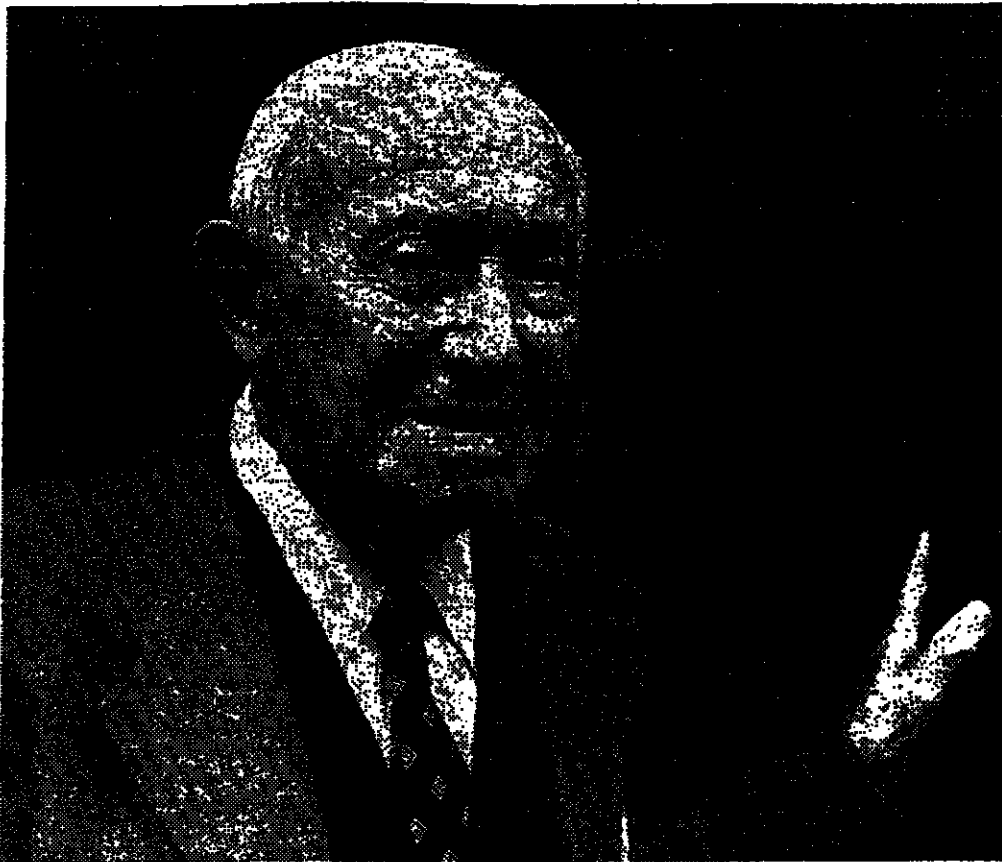
Members have been digging into his pockets, to a suggested minimum of £5, for his birthday celebration, which will be a rare occasion, not least because the Queen has given permission for it to be held in the Royal Gallery of the Palace of Westminster.

Such a span gives a man a mite of historical perspective. He can review a Commons career that began with his election as Labour Member for Linlithgow in 1922, and ended in 1970 with his elevation to the emerald from the Labour seat of Eastington, Co Durham.

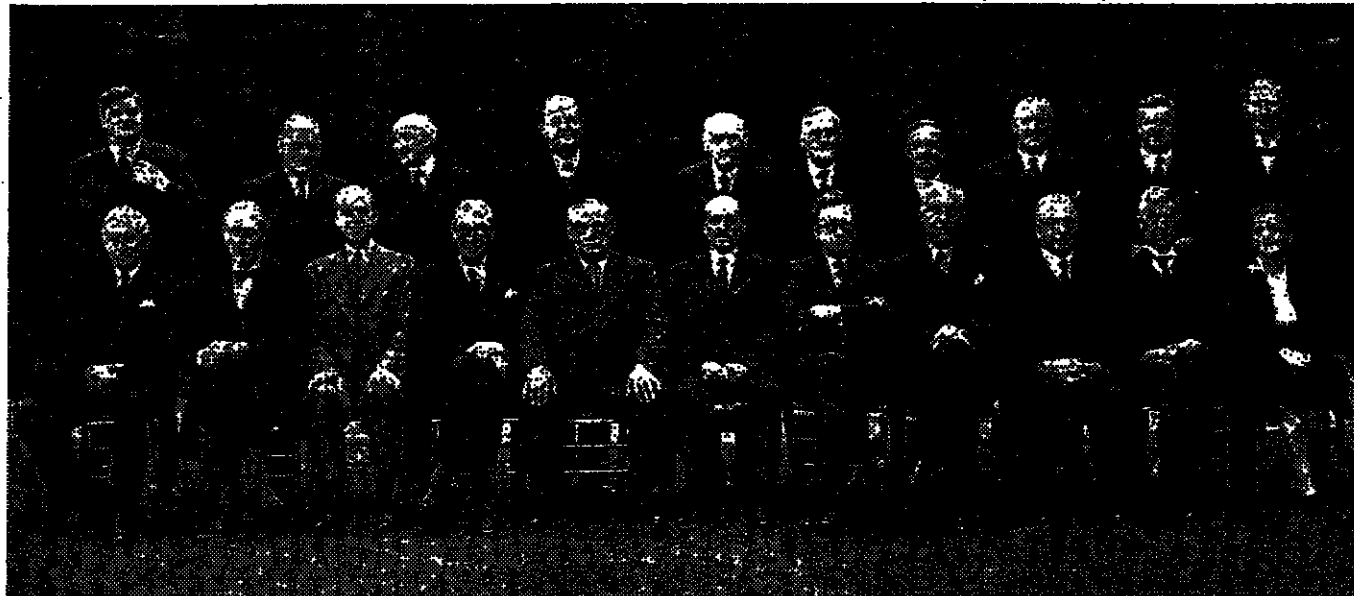
The man who, in 1924, proposed Ramsay MacDonald for the leadership of his party, has a view on an endless procession of premiers. Asquith? No high opinion of the Commons, but like Lloyd George a generous man and a bit of a rascal. Chamberlain? A dapper little man, but too much influenced by Hitler. Attlee? A good foreign secretary, Home? A gentleman. Mrs Thatcher? A graceful and capable woman.

Macmillan? Ah, now there was a different story. "The best prime minister, apart from Churchill in wartime, the most astute prime minister we ever had. He knew his stuff. I hope he lives to be 120."

And what of the man of the hour? "Scargill has little case but the men who follow Scargill have got a case: they are afraid of losing their jobs. I remember in Jarrow and Northumberland when men were getting six shillings for an eight-hour shift underground. They did not have much to lose. When they are getting over £150 a week and buy cars and colour television, then they are frightened of losing their jobs."



Scenes from a life: Lord Shinwell (above left) arriving in London yesterday for the preview of "The Oldest Rebel", a television documentary to be shown next week in honour of his 100th birthday; celebrating his victory over Ramsay MacDonald by more than 20,000 votes at Seaboard Harbour in 1935 (above); posing with fellow members of the post-war Labour Government in 1945 (below); and as a young man from Clydebank at the end of World War I.



Secret charge airmen remanded

Three British airmen charged under the Official Secrets Act after a security inquiry in Cyprus were further remanded in custody until October 22 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court.

Coal imports to prevent power cuts

Continued from page 1

stations, coal-burning at its present level could be kept up until late next year, or, according to the most optimistic view within the generating industry, the spring of 1987.

The industry's current calculations also do not take into account the 3 million tonnes of high-quality coal held in stock by the CEBG in Antwerp, Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

The CEBG has not brought in any of this coal, but has been selling from its stockpiles to the coal board, which has been using it to meet long-term contracts for Scandinavian coal-fired power stations.

The use of such coal and coal from the open-cast stockpiles as well as that from the working mines in Nottinghamshire - now standing at nearly 4 million tonnes - would also help to prepare much of the coal

in pit-head stocks for the power stations. Coal from the deep mines in Wales, Yorkshire and Kent has to be "washed" before delivery to the power stations. Although many power stations can burn unwashed coal - the process changes the ash content and the chlorine level from deep-mined coal - washing can be avoided by blending higher-quality open-cast coal with the lower grades.

Englishwoman's body found

The body of an English schoolmistress, Miss Deborah Martin, aged 44, from Cambridge, who disappeared in Switzerland two years ago after setting out to walk up the Rigi mountain was found yesterday.

A surveyor taking measurements on the Rigi slopes discovered it. Police said she had obviously fallen to her death.

Tebbit succeeds to Darling title

Mr Norman Tebbit was yesterday appointed Darling of the Conservative Conference in succession to Mr Michael Heseltine, who had held the title for eight years.

The Darling's duties are light, being largely confined to one peroration in a seaside town each autumn. Conservatives who have previously been Darling have included, besides Mr Heseltine, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Mr Enoch Powell, David

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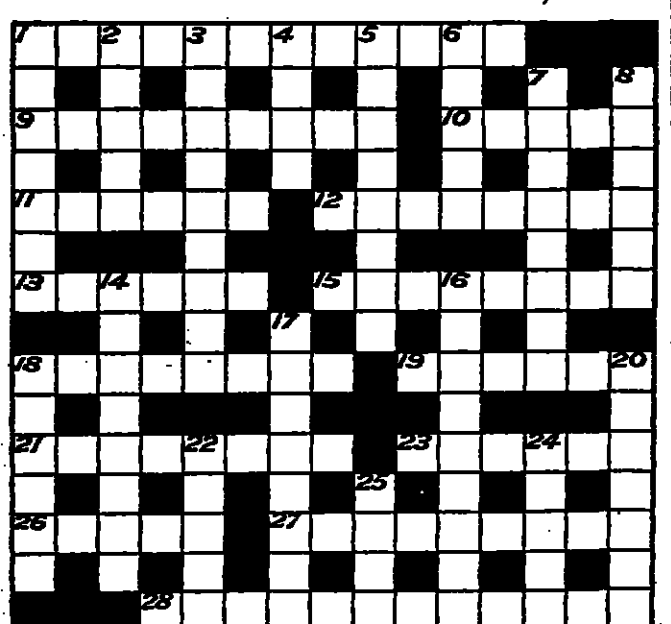
Today's events

Royal engagements
The Duchess of Gloucester presents the awards at the annual nurses' prize-giving at the Brompton Hospital, London, SW3, 2.15.
Prince Michael of Kent attends the Anglo-Hellenic League reception in Belgrave Square, at 6.30.

New exhibitions
A West Coast Sketchbook: watercolours by Maggie Scott and Andrew Miller Munday, Malcolm Innes Gallery, 67 George St, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 6, Sat 10 to 1; (end Oct 23).
Paintings and drawings by Brian Ballard, Gordon Gallery, 36 Ferryquay St, Londonderry, Northern Ireland, Mon to Fri 11 to 5.30, Sat 11 to 1, closed Sun and Thurs (ends Oct 27).

Exhibitions in progress
Views of Oxfordshire: new works by local artists; Dorchester Galleries, Rotten Row, Dorchester, Oxon; Mon to Sun 10 to 6, closed Weds; (ends Oct 21).
Paintings, drawings and photographs by Joan Eardly, The architects of Victorian and Edwardian St Andrews; and Crawford Centre for Arts, St Andrews University, Fife; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (end Oct 21).

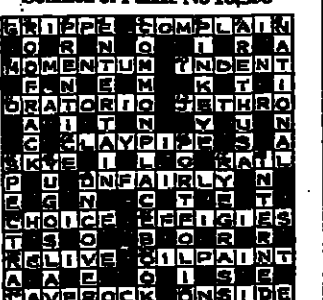
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,559



ACROSS

- Novel result of traffic-light malfunction? (7,5).
- Reward for author with connections at court? (9).
- Greeting first two characters from tragedy? (5).
- Behind a lot of bones? (6).
- Introduction for you, say, in a theatre box? (8).
- Small, nasty, tailless, beetle? (6).
- Bark's recollected by everybody for this? (8).
- Money doubled by a girl I found in Wales? (8).
- Model of perseverance wretched king spied? (6).
- Dictates letters for crucial trial? (4,4).
- Mainly loyal worker is absentee? (6).
- Satan's other side? (5).
- Story - one of many written by Kipling? (9).
- Gay entertainment, not for the choosy? (7,5).

Solution of Puzzle No 16,558



Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow
CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 10

Food prices

Mushrooms, which we tend to take for granted, are in fact a highly nutritious food, rich in vitamins, mineral salts, fibre and, unlike most vegetables, protein. They are free of carbohydrates and contain only 13 calories a hundred grammes. Size and appearance depends on age; at the button stage they are at present 55-65p a half pound, cups are 45-60p and full grown flat are 35-50p. Supplies of Brussels sprouts are increasing and this week they are cheaper, at 26-36p a lb. English root vegetables are plentiful and the quality is good: carrots, 10-18p a lb. Parsnips 18-25p, swedes 12-16p and potatoes 7-12p a lb. Green peppers are increasing and this week they are very good value at 48-70p a lb. Pickling onions, also good for stews and quiches, are 14-20p a lb. Tomato and cucumber prices are down, and range from 28-45p a lb and 35-55p each respectively.

The Spanish citrus fruit season has started, with Clausellinas, a sweet seedless variety, at 55-65p a lb. Grapefruit from South Africa, Cuba and the Caribbean and Israel, ranges from 18p to 28p each. Small and medium sized pineapples are still a good buy at 50-95p each.

A rise in beef wholesale prices has so far not affected the retail market. Stewing steak ranges from £1.26 to £1.39 a lb. Beef ribs are the bone from £1.28 to £1.70. Restrictions, following lamb dipping and improved exports, have caused a slight rise in home prices. Whole leg ranges from £1.32 to £1.70 a lb. whole shoulder 28p to £1.14 and best end chops £1.24 to £1.85. Some good buys this week are: Safeway fresh turkeys down 10p to 89p a lb and whole leg of pork 95p; 89p a lb and whole leg of pork 95p;

Top films

- (1) Company of Wolves.
- (2) Top Secret.
- (3) Paris, Texas.
- (4) Once Upon a Time in America.
- (5) Bostonians.
- (6) Streets of Fire.
- (7) Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom.
- (8) Electric Dreams.
- (9) Romancing the Stone.
- (10) The Bourne Supremacy.

The top films in the provinces:
1. Company of Wolves.
2. Company of Wolves.
3. Company of Wolves.
4. Bachelor Party.
5. Streets of Fire.
Supplied by Screen International.

The pound

| | Bank | Spot | 3m |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Australia \$ | 1.51 | 1.51 | 1.51 |
| Belgium F | 20.36 | 20.36 | 20.36 |
| Canada \$ | 0.67 | 0.67 | 0.67 |
| Denmark Kr | 13.66 | 13.66 | 13.66 |
| France F | 6.55 | 6.55 | 6.55 |
| Germany DM | 2.36 | 2.36 | 2.36 |
| Italy Lira | 2036 | 2036 | 2036 |
| Japan Yen | 163.60 | 163.60 | 163.60 |
| Netherlands Gld | 4.22 | 4.22 | 4.22 |
| Portugal Esc | 204.80 | 204.80 | 204.80 |
| Spain Ptas | 166.37 | 166.37 | 166.37 |
| Sweden Kr | 11.85 | 11.85 | 11.85 |
| Switzerland Fr | 2.05 | 2.05 | 2.05 |
| USA \$ | 1.51 | 1.51 | 1.51 |

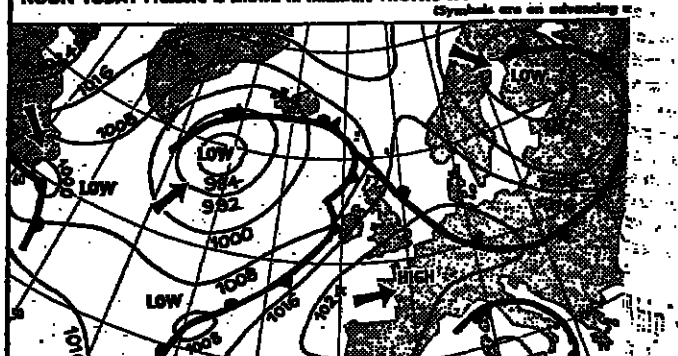
Yugoslavia Dinar 238.00
Notes for the £100 bank note only.
Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currencies.
Retail Prices Index: 354.8
London: The FT index closed at 3.8 at 4.05.

Weather

Pressure will remain high over S parts of Britain, while weak troughs of low pressure will move across some N areas.

6am to midnight
London SE, central S England, East Angles, E W Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales Dry, sunny periods with early mist and fog patches; wind SW, light or moderate; max temp 16C (61F).
SW England: Dry, apart from a little coastal drizzle; sunny periods inland; wind SW, light or moderate; max temp 16C (61F).
N.W. central N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Mostly dry apart from a little rain at first; wind SW, light or moderate; max temp 15C (59F).
Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Dry with sunny periods at first; rain spreading from SW later; wind variable, light, becoming S or SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 13C (55F).
SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Rather cloudy; rain and drizzle at times; wind S or SW, fresh or strong; max temp 13C (55F).
Northern Ireland: Rain early and late; bright intervals; wind S or SW, moderate or fresh; max temp 13C (55F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Changeable in the N, dry and sunny in the S after overnight fog patches; rather warm generally.
SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind W backing, SW moderate, occasionally fresh; showers; visibility good, locally poor. S North Sea: Wind W backing, SW moderate, occasionally fresh; showers; visibility good, locally poor. S North Sea: Wind W backing, SW moderate, occasionally fresh; showers; visibility good, locally poor.

High tides



NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts shown. Cold and warm fronts indicated. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) and temperature (Fahrenheit).

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Pressure is shown in millibars. Fronts shown. Cold and warm fronts indicated. Arrows show wind direction, wind speed (mph) and temperature (Fahrenheit).

High tides
TODAY
London Bridge 4.00 7.00 10.00
Aberdeen 3.05 6.05 9.05
Newcastle 3.20 6.20 9.20
Belfast 3.15 6.15 9.15
Southampton 3.10 6.10 9.10
Dover 3.05 6.05 9.05
Plymouth 3.00 6.00 9.00
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Bristol 2.50 5.50 8.50
Cardiff 2.45 5.45 8.45
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Aberdeen 2.15 5.15 8.15
Newcastle 2.10 5.10 8.10
Belfast 2.05 5.05 8.05
Southampton 2.00 5.00 8.00
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